

I

Health and Sanitary Circumstances
of the North East Salop United Districts



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

1971

NEWPORT URBAN DISTRICT - OAKENGATES URBAN DISTRICT
WELLINGTON URBAN DISTRICT - WELLINGTON RURAL DISTRICT
SHIFNAL RURAL DISTRICT

North East Salop United District Joint Committee

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Public Health Inspectors

K. A. GRIFFITHS, M.A.P.H.I., Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector, Newport U.D.C.
J. SPOORS, M.A.P.H.I., Deputy Surveyor/Public Health Inspector, Newport U.D.C. (till August).
J. G. GOSNELL, M.A.P.H.I., Deputy Surveyor/Public Health Inspector, Newport U.D.C. (from September).
A. H. JOHNSTONE, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., Chief Public Health Inspector, Oakengates U.D.C.
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Clerk

MR. O. LEIGHTON



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To the Chairman and Members of the Constituent Authorities

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

The birth rate remains high throughout the area. Oakengates and Newport have a high rate of natural increase. The other vital statistics are near the national average and call for no special comment this year.

In September, Wellington was visited by the Minister of Health, Sir Keith Joseph in order to open the new Health Centre. This was built by Salop County Council to provide accommodation for the health services provided by them and for the general medical practitioners practising in and around Wellington.

In October the new Adult Training Centre and Hostel for Sub-normals was opened by Sir Frank Price, Chairman of Telford Development Corporation.

The poor results of tests for cleanliness of ice cream carried out during the summer are a matter for some concern. Since the Heat Treatment Regulations were introduced in 1957, ice cream has generally not given us much cause for concern. During the last few years, however, "soft" ice cream has become popular. This is produced in the sales van during the actual sale. It is much more difficult to check up on hygiene in these circumstances, and a great deal of extra work is entailed for the Inspectors in maintaining control.

During 1971 the Royal College of Physicians published a second Report on the effects of smoking on health. This not only confirmed the earlier work which demonstrated beyond all reasonable doubt the role cigarette smoking played in the causation of cancer, but also provided overwhelming evidence that a great deal of other disease, particularly bronchitis, emphysema and arterial disease, was caused by smoking. The information, gathered together from all sources, has enabled an estimate to be made of the number of premature deaths now being caused by this habit. In the United Kingdom, at least 20,000 men between the ages of 35 and 64 die each year as the result of smoking cigarettes. Using the figures given in the Report, I estimate that in the five districts covered by this Report, 60 men and 8 women under the age of 65 years died as the result of smoking in 1971.

It is more difficult to estimate the number of deaths over this age, nor is it so important from the economic point of view, nevertheless the number must be in excess of 75 men and 10 women. At present we have no means of measuring the ill-health and invalidism caused by smoking, but we have only to look around us at the number of older people whose lives are made miserable by chronic bronchitis, emphysema and bad hearts to realise that the figures must be considerable.

The price we pay for this popular habit is brought home when one compares the figures with those for accidents, which we already regard as a matter for some concern:

		<i>Under 65</i>	<i>Over 65</i>
Number of deaths from cigarette smoking	..	68	85
Number of deaths from road accidents	..	12	3
Number of deaths from all other accidents	..	9	6

All the Councils have Committees for Road Safety and Home Safety or Accident Prevention, which between them spend over two thousand pounds each year on educating the public on the importance of accident prevention.

It would seem logical that at least the same effort should be put into educating the public on the dangers of smoking.

I should like to place on record my appreciation of the co-operation and help of the Officers of the five Health Departments and the support and encouragement from the Health Committees.

I am, your obedient servant,

H. S. BURY,
Medical Officer of Health.

May 1972.

SOCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

The area covered by the five authorities forms a well-balanced community consisting of an extensive urban centre, formed by the Urban Districts of Wellington and Oakengates, with the intervening parts of the Wellington Rural District at Hadley, Ketley and Donnington. The economy, based on a very ancient mining and iron producing industry, had for many years been declining. Only one coal mine is now in production. Since the last war there has been a considerable industrial revival, particularly in the iron and engineering industry.

To the east, north and west the rural parts of the Wellington Rural District and Shifnal Rural District consist mostly of rich agricultural land. To the south the area is bordered by the beautiful wooded country surrounding The Wrekin and by the Urban District of Dawley. Newport continues to play its role of a rural market town, assisted by one large engineering factory. In the south, Shifnal is also a market town, and Albrighton, near the Staffordshire border, has rapidly developed into a dormitory area for Wolverhampton, assisted by the R.A.F. Station at Cosford.

The Wrekin and Ercall Hills and the nearby valley of the River Severn provide a natural centre for outdoor activities in the district. In addition, recreational facilities, including playing fields, swimming baths and covered sports halls are provided by the district authorities. Play leadership schemes operate in most of the area, and the Wellington Rural District also provides play centres for the under fives.

With regard to special provision for old people, all the authorities give financial support to the local "Meals on Wheels" services and to Old People's Welfare Committees and Clubs.

All these activities make a very real contribution to the health of the local population.

LOCAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1971

	<i>Newport U.D.C.</i>	<i>Oakengates U.D.C.</i>	<i>Wellington U.D.C.</i>	<i>Shifnal R.D.C.</i>	<i>Wellington R.D.C.</i>
Acreage	903	2,426	2,281	31,476	56,173
Population (estimated) .. .	7,020	16,760	17,290	16,350	30,020
Number of Inhabited houses ..	2,501	6,281	5,475	4,620	9,621
Rateable value	£261,845	£625,163	£754,520	£586,072	£1,543,709
Product of 1p rate	£2,477	£5,900	£7,114	£5,636	£15,287
Number of persons per acre ..	7.99	6.9	7.5	0.51	0.54

VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1971

	<i>Newport U.D.C.</i>	<i>Oakengates U.D.C.</i>	<i>Wellington U.D.C.</i>	<i>Shifnal R.D.C.</i>	<i>Wellington R.D.C.</i>	<i>England and Wales (Rates only)</i>
<i>Live Births:</i>						
Male: Legitimate	84	185	132	129	263	
Illegitimate	3	6	9	9	24	
Female: Legitimate	83	158	106	121	266	
Illegitimate	5	8	6	11	16	
Total	175	357	253	270	569	
Crude Birth Rate	24.9	21.3	14.6	16.5	19.0	
Adjusted Birth Rate	21.4	26.8	16.4	17.7	18.6	16.0
<i>Still Births:</i>						
Legitimate	1	6	3	2	13	
Illegitimate	0	0	0	1	0	
Total	1	6	3	3	13	
Still Birth Rate	6	17	12	11	22	12
<i>Deaths:</i>						
Male	46	87	96	65	163	
Female	33	62	87	57	126	
Total	79	149	183	122	289	
Crude Rate	11.3	8.9	10.6	7.5	9.6	
Adjusted Rate.. ..	10.3	11.7	11.8	10.7	12.8	11.6
Maternal Deaths	0	0	0	0	0	
<i>Deaths of Infants:</i>						
During first week	2	4	1	3	8	
Second to fourth week	0	1	0	0	0	
Second to twelfth month	1	1	1	3	2	
Total first year	3	6	2	6	10	
Infant Mortality Rate	17	17	8	22	18	18
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	11	14	4	11	14	12
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	11	11	4	11	14	10
Perinatal Mortality Rate*	17	28	16	22	36	22

* Perinatal Mortality Rate is the number of still births and deaths during the first week of life per thousand total births and is a sensitive indicator of the state of health of expectant mothers and the efficiency of the maternity service.

Causes of Death, 1971

	<i>Newport</i> <i>U.D.</i>		<i>Oakengates</i> <i>U.D.</i>		<i>Wellington</i> <i>U.D.</i>		<i>Shifnal</i> <i>R.D.</i>		<i>Wellington</i> <i>R.D.</i>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Enteritis and other Diarrhoeal Diseases	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.. ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Tuberculosis	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Late Effects of Respiratory Tuberculosis	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Syphilis and its Sequelae	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity, etc.	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	1	0
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	2	0
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	0	0	3	3	2	0	1	1	3	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	2	1	4	3	3	2	1	1	5	3
Malignant Neoplasm Lung, Bronchus	4	0	5	0	8	1	2	1	15	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast.. ..	0	2	0	2	0	3	0	2	0	5
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	4
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	4	0
Leukaemia	0	2	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	0
Other Malignant Neoplasms.. ..	3	0	4	2	6	8	2	2	9	7
Anaemias	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms.. ..	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Diabetes Mellitus	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	3
Avitaminoses	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Other Endocrine, etc., Diseases	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	0
Other Diseases of the Blood, etc.	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Diseases of the Nervous System, etc.	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Multiple Sclerosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	0	0	1	1	1	4	0	0	1	1
Hypertensive Disease	2	2	3	4	0	1	0	2	3	3
Ischaemic Heart Disease	10	5	31	14	27	13	19	19	45	37
Other Forms of Heart Disease	1	2	1	0	4	8	0	3	1	4
Cerebrovascular Disease	7	6	5	12	11	18	15	11	19	20
Other Diseases of the Circulatory System	0	0	5	5	4	4	1	2	8	5
Influenza	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Pneumonia	1	5	2	3	3	9	7	3	6	5
Bronchitis and Emphysema	2	1	3	3	10	1	0	2	17	8
Asthma	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	2	1	6	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Peptic Ulcer	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1
Cirrhosis of the Liver.. ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1
Other Diseases of the Digestive System	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	2
Other Diseases of the Genito Urinary System	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	2	0	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diseases of the Musculo-Skeletal System	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Congenital Anomalies	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	1	1	2	0	0	0	2	0	2	3
Other Causes of Peri-natal Mortality	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Symptoms and Ill-defined Conditions	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	1	1	0	3	2	4	0	2	1
All other Accidents	1	0	2	2	0	1	1	1	6	1
Suicide and Self-inflicted Injuries	1	0	1	0	1	2	1	1	2	1
Total ..	46	33	87	62	96	87	65	57	163	126

Causes of Death in Infancy

Birth Injury	11
Congenital Abnormality	4
Neoplasms	2
Whooping Cough	1
Influenza	1
Pneumonia	2
Accident	1
Other Causes	5
Total ..	27

VITAL STATISTICS FOR PREVIOUS YEARS

NEWPORT U.D.C.

	1900	1910	1920	1930	1938	1944	1950	1960	1970	1971
Estimated Population	3,409	3,080	2,994	3,081	3,456	3,345	3,820	4,090	6,630	7,020
Live Births	79	67	72	59	46	75	60	69	157	175
Birth Rate	23.2	21.8	24.0	19.1	13.3	22.4	15.7	16.9	23.7	21.4
Still Births	—	—	—	2	2	3	1	1	4	1
Infant Deaths ..	—	7	5	3	2	0	1	5	6	3
Neo-Natal Deaths ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	5	2
Maternal Deaths ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	0	1	0	0
Total Deaths ..	—	53	45	36	45	39	52	66	86	79
Death Rate	16.1	17.2	15.0	11.6	13.0	11.6	13.6	15.0	13.0	10.3

OAKENGATES U.D.C.

	1900	1910	1920	1930	1938	1944	1950	1960	1970	1971
Estimated Population	10,800	11,138	11,734	11,330	10,660	10,540	11,100	11,580	15,960	16,760
Live Births	377	306	324	191	164	208	165	172	357	357
Birth Rate	34.9	27.5	27.6	16.8	15.4	19.8	14.7	14.9	22.4	26.8
Still Births	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	6	2	6
Infant Deaths ..	—	36	22	16	5	14	3	4	3	6
Neo-Natal Deaths ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	2	5
Maternal Deaths ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	0	1	0
Total Deaths ..	—	137	123	145	129	119	136	130	151	149
Death Rate	15.7	12.3	10.5	12.7	12.1	11.3	12.2	11.2	9.5	11.7

WELLINGTON U.D.C.

	1900	1910	1920	1930	1938	1944	1950	1960	1970	1971
Estimated Population	6,400	7,500	7,857	8,596	9,757	11,330	11,780	13,850	16,920	17,290
Live Births	180	179	197	132	148	218	209	248	274	253
Birth Rate	28.1	23.8	25.1	15.3	15.2	19.2	17.8	17.9	16.2	16.4
Still Births	—	—	—	4	7	4	4	11	11	3
Infant Deaths ..	—	8	12	8	8	5	9	6	4	2
Neo-Natal Deaths ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	4	1	1
Maternal Deaths ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	0	1	1	0
Total Deaths ..	—	102	94	91	115	114	143	158	177	183
Death Rate	17.8	13.6	11.9	10.5	11.8	10.1	12.1	11.4	10.5	11.8

SHIFNAL R.D.C.

	1900	1910	1920	1930	1938	1944	1950	1960	1970	1971
Estimated Population	8,950	8,700	9,006	7,626	7,659	9,513	11,770	14,710	16,870	16,350
Live Births	231	185	190	141	152	208	194	235	256	270
Birth Rate	25.8	21.3	21.1	18.5	19.8	21.8	16.5	15.9	15.2	17.7
Still Births	—	—	—	8	3	7	4	7	2	3
Infant Deaths ..	—	9	8	2	9	7	5	2	5	6
Neo-Natal Deaths ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	1	3
Maternal Deaths ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	0	0	0	0
Total Deaths	—	102	106	86	108	87	100	99	116	122
Death Rate	16.6	11.7	11.7	11.3	14.1	9.1	8.5	6.7	6.9	10.7

WELLINGTON R.D.C.

	1900	1910	1920	1930	1938	1944	1950	1960	1970	1971
Estimated Population	11,185	11,388	11,294	11,140	15,950	19,930	23,850	25,380	28,180	30,020
Live Births	551	254	264	204	172	439	340	460	594	569
Birth Rate	49.2	22.3	23.4	18.3	10.8	22.0	14.3	18.1	21.1	18.6
Still Births	—	—	—	7	8	15	5	5	10	13
Infant Deaths ..	—	16	24	8	13	22	7	9	3	10
Neo-Natal Deaths ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	6	2	8
Maternal Deaths ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	0	1	0
Total Deaths	—	104	151	124	210	241	192	214	280	289
Death Rate	13.4	9.1	13.4	11.1	13.2	12.1	8.1	8.4	9.9	12.8

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES IN THE AREA

1. PROVIDED BY SALOP COUNTY COUNCIL

Care of Mothers and Young Children

Clinics

Health Centre, Chapel Lane, Wellington.
The Surgery, Shaw Lane, Albrighton.*
Senior Social Club, Curriers Lane, Shifnal.*
Turreff Hall, Donnington.*
The Humbers, Donnington.*
Boyne House, Beaumaris Road, Newport.
Stafford Road, Oakengates.
Old People's Rest Room, Hadley Park Road, Hadley.*

* Sessional use of premises owned by other organisations.

In addition to the above, a mobile unit provides child health clinic facilities for Admaston, Edgmond, High Ercall, Ketley, Lilleshall and Tibberton.

Dental Clinic facilities for children below the upper limit of compulsory school age and for expectant and nursing mothers are provided at the Wellington and Newport Centres.

Facilities are provided at the Wellington Centre for Family Planning Clinics conducted by the Wellington Branch of the Family Planning Association.

Distribution of Welfare Foods

National Dried Milk, Vitamin Tablets and Drops are available at the Child Health Centres and Mobile Clinic, and these are supplemented by local distribution points, which include certain small post offices and shops. In accordance with the instructions of the Department of Health and Social Security, existing stocks of Orange Juice and Cod Liver Oil, which have hitherto also been available, will not be replaced.

Midwifery and Home Nursing Services

District Nurse Midwives, who are employed by the County Council for attendance upon patients in their own homes, are listed in the current telephone directory under the heading “Nurses—Shropshire” and set out in alphabetical order of the address of the nurse.

Health Visiting

In the area of the Joint Committee, the County Council provide the service of full-time Health Visitors (Qualified Nurses who hold the Health Visitor’s Certificate), who attend the Child Health Centres and visit children under five years of age in their own homes. The advice of the Health Visitors upon any aspect of child care, the prevention of illness, the care of the aged, etc., is freely available. These officers are listed in the telephone directory under the heading “Salop County Council—Health Department”.

Vaccination and Immunisation

Protection is offered to pre-school children and school children against Whooping Cough, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Poliomyelitis and Measles, which can be administered by the child’s family doctor or by a County Council Medical Officer at a clinic or school.

Vaccination against Rubella (German Measles) is offered to all girls between their eleventh and fourteenth birthdays.

In addition, protection against Tuberculosis is available at sessions conducted in schools to children of twelve years and over.

For travellers to certain areas abroad, whether children or adults, the County Health Department, The Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury (Telephone No. Shrewsbury 52211, Ext. 524) is a Designated Centre for vaccination against Yellow Fever, which is available by appointment only and for which a charge is made.

Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care

(i) A wide range of nursing aids—from hydraulic patient lifters, wheelchairs with lifting apparatus, etc., to back rests and bed pans are available from the County Health Department to assist in the nursing of patients in their own homes.

Ordinarily, requests are made for such items by the Doctor or District Nurse, but direct enquiry from patients or their relatives receives attention. A charge is made for certain larger items, where the patient is able to pay.

Special pads are available, on the recommendation of Doctors or Nurses, for bedfast incontinent patients and special garments with absorbant pads for ambulant incontinent patients.

Note: Wheel chairs and special appliances for the permanent personal use of patients are supplied under arrangements made by the Department of Health and Social Security upon the recommendation of Hospital Consultants.

(ii) The hospital treatment of Tuberculosis, as with any other condition, is the responsibility of the Hospital Authorities, but assistance with management of the patients at home, and arrangements for examination of contacts by the Consultant Chest Physicians, are part of the Health Visitor’s duties. Extra nourishment may be supplied where the financial circumstances of the patient so require.

(iii) Recuperative convalescence may be arranged *via* the Social Services Department for patients recovering from illness and no longer in need of medical or nursing treatment, and charges are made for this service in accordance with the patient’s ability to pay.

Chiropody

Persons of pensionable age who are mainly dependent upon Retirement Pension and/or Social Security benefits, together with handicapped persons and expectant mothers, are eligible for treatment under the Council's service or by arrangement made by local voluntary committees who act as the Council's agents. In this area they are:

St. Georges and Priors Lee Club.
Shifnal Old People's Welfare Committee.
Wellington Old People's Welfare Committee.
Oakengates and District Old People's Welfare Committee.

A charge of 18p per treatment is made to all patients, subject to remission in cases receiving Social Security benefits or otherwise unable to pay the fee. This fee will be increased to 20p from 1st January, 1972.

Treatment is undertaken also by chiropodists employed direct by the Department at home or at Clinics by appointment. Application should be made to the Family Doctor, Nurse or Health Visitor.

Ambulance Service

The Ambulance Service is operated from a central control which is manned throughout the twenty-four hours at the Headquarters in Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury (Telephone No. 6331), to which all requests for ambulance transport in the area of the Joint Committee should be made.

A local Ambulance Station is maintained at Donnington.

Early Detection of Cancer

Sessions are held on the second and third Mondays of every month at the County Council Health Centre, Chapel Lane, Wellington, and on the second Wednesday of every month at the Clinic, Beaumaris Road, Newport, for the early detection of cancer at the neck of the womb (Cervical Cytology) and the breast. Appointments can be made by any woman by the completion of a form available from any County Council Clinic, Health Visitor, Nurse or Midwife.

Registered Nursing Homes in the Area

Address: Priory Nursing Home, Springhill, Wellington.
Brookfield House, Forton Road, Newport.

School Health Service

This service is provided by the County Council under the Education Act, 1944, and covers:

Routine medical inspections.
School clinics.
Handicapped children (ascertainment and special education):
Deaf; Blind; E.S.N.; Maladjusted; Physically Handicapped; Epileptic; Speech Defective;
Delicate.
Audiology.
Speech Therapy.
School Dental Service.
Milk and Meals.
Hygiene in School Buildings.

Services provided by the County Social Services Department

I am grateful to Mr. T. G. Williams, Director of Social Services, for the following information:

Residential Accommodation:

A. Audley House, Audley Avenue, Newport	..	..	..	118 beds (including a unit of 20 beds and cots for temporary accommodation)
Far Croft, North Road, Wellington	..	..	..	37 beds
Summercroft, Turreff Avenue, Donnington	..	..	..	50 beds
Broadway, Shifnal	..	..	..	40 beds (opening July, 1972)

COMMUNITY HOMES

Highfield House, Wrekin Road, Wellington	..	..	16 beds
The Mount, Haygate Road, Wellington	..	..	30 beds
The Vineyard, Vineyard Road, Wellington	..	..	75 beds
Flora Dugdale House, Wrockwardine Road, Wellington	..	..	12 beds

MENTAL HEALTH ESTABLISHMENTS

Wrekin Adult Training Centre and Hostel, Severn Drive, Wellington	..	..	..	..	..	..	27 beds
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B. GROUPED DWELLINGS AND FLATLETS

Shifnal R.D.C.:	Sheldon Court, Albrighton	..	..	22 units
	High Street, Shifnal	..	..	23 units
Wellington R.D.C. :	Lawndale, Donnington	..	..	13 units
	Willow Court, Donnington	..	..	24 units
	Sandbrook Estate, Ketley	..	..	19 units
	Haybridge Hall, Hadley	..	..	20 units
	High Mount, Donnington	..	..	24 units
Newport U.D.C.:	Hallcroft Close	..	..	20 units
	Adams Close	..	..	20 units
Oakengates U.D.C.:	Newfield House	..	..	24 units
Wellington U.D.C.:	Hesba Stretton, West Road	..	..	20 units

C. W.R.V.S. FLATLETS

Portway House, Wellington	..	..	..	9 units
Parville House, Wellington	..	..	..	16 units
Haygate House, Haygate Road, Wellington	..	..	..	9 units

D. ALMSHOUSES

High Ercall Hospital

The properties under B, C and D are the responsibility of the local authorities or voluntary committees, but the Social Services Department assists with finance or advice.

Domiciliary Services:

Domiciliary services for elderly, blind, deaf and handicapped persons under the National Assistance Act, 1948, and for the mentally handicapped and mentally disordered under the Mental Health Act, 1959, are provided by the Social Services Department from The Shirehall, and locally from the Area Social Service office in Haygate Road, Wellington. In addition, the care of children, the care of the unmarried mother and her child, and the provision of the Home Help service are domiciliary activities carried out by the Department.

The Telford Area Social Services Office is under the control of Mr. S. S. Robinson. The telephone number is Wellington 54371.

Home Help Service:

Persons in need of help should apply to the Area Social Services Office, Haygate Road, Wellington, or contact the County Social Services Department. Charges are assessed in accordance with the applicant's financial resources.

Meals on Wheels:

The Social Services Department are interested in the provision of Meals on Wheels in nearly every part of the County.

Mental Health Service:

The functions of the County Council under the Mental Health Act, 1959, in respect of persons who are, or have been, suffering from mental disorder are, very broadly:

- (a) the provision, equipment and maintenance of residential accommodation;
- (b) the provision of centres or other facilities for training or occupation;
- (c) the appointment of officers to act as Mental Welfare Officers;
- (d) the exercise of functions in respect of persons placed under guardianship;
- (e) the provision of ancillary or supplementary services for the prevention of mental disorder or for the care of mentally disordered persons.

There is a rehabilitation hostel for female patients recovering from mental illness. There are also Adult Training Centres and Hostels in Shrewsbury and Wellington for the mentally handicapped.

The County Council's Mental Welfare Officers are responsible for home visiting of patients who are mentally ill or who are mentally handicapped or severely mentally handicapped.

Excellent co-operation exists between these officers and the Consultant Psychiatrists, General Practitioners and all agencies, both statutory and voluntary, who combine to serve the needs of the patients.

Nurseries and Child Minders Regulation Act, 1948 (as amended by the Health Services and Public Health Act, 1968)

Premises and Child Minders registered in the area:

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Permitted number of children</i>
Village Hall, High Ercall	24
Methodist Youth Centre, Tan Bank, Wellington.. .. .	30
Dothill Hall, Severn Drive, Wellington	20
Princes Street School, Wellington	24
Admaston House, Admaston	23
Donnington Recreation Ground Pavilion, Donnington	25
Memorial Hall, Lilleshall	25
The Play Centre, Recreation Ground, Crescent Road, Hadley	25
The Sports Centre, Ketley	23
Methodist Hall, Station Hill, Oakengates	24
Salvation Army Hut, Bridge Street, Oakengates	16
Methodist Chapel, St. Georges	24
Methodist Hall, Shifnal	25
Old C. of E. School, Station Road, Albrighton	28
Donington Church Hall, Rectory Road, Albrighton	30
Congregational Church, Wellington Road, Newport	40
C. of E. Parish Room, New Street, Newport	30
The Manor House, Church Aston	18
The Village Institute, Church Aston	26
The Village Hall, Edgmond	18
The Playing Fields, off Maslan Crescent, Tibberton	24
Wrockwardine Wood Church Hall.. .. .	26

Sixty-three child minders in the districts are registered; details can be obtained from the Director of Social Services.

Care of Unmarried Mothers and Illegitimate Children:

The Lichfield Diocesan Association for Family Care act as agents for the County Council, and the services of the Diocesan Worker are available for those in need of care or assistance.

Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care:

Recuperative convalescence may be arranged by the Social Services Department for patients recovering from illness and no longer in need of medical or nursing treatment. Charges are made for this service in accordance with the patient's ability to pay.

2. PROVIDED BY THE BIRMINGHAM REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD

(A) Managed by the Shrewsbury Group Hospital Management Committee

Full district hospital facilities are provided at the Royal Salop Infirmary and at Copthorne Hospital. This is supplemented by local services provided at the Wrekin and Wellington Cottage Hospitals.

Wrekin Hospital, Wellington

<i>Clinics held</i>				<i>Clinic</i>				<i>Consultant</i>			
Monday morning	..	..		Geriatric	..	..	..	Dr. A. R. Khan			
				Dermatological	..	..	..	Dr. A. B. Shrank			
				Chest	..	..	..	Dr. P. E. Perceval			
				Chest	..	..	..	Dr. A. T. M. Myres			
				Paediatric	..	..	..	Dr. F. P. A. Capps			
Monday afternoon	..	..		Surgical	..	..	..	Mr. R. D. Gardner			
				Chest	..	..	..	Dr. P. E. Perceval			
				Dermatological (biopsies)	..	..	..	Dr. A. B. Shrank			
		(alternate)		Medical	..	..	..	Dr. P. L. Boardman			
Tuesday morning	..	..		Surgical	..	..	..	Mr. M. W. F. Dunning			
				Medical	..	..	..	Dr. P. L. Boardman			
				Orthopaedic	..	..	..	Mr. G. K. Rose			
								Mr. R. S. Cowie			
Tuesday afternoon	..	..		Gynaecology	..	..	..	Mr. H. G. Wolskel			
				Psychiatric	..	..	..	Dr. D. H. Myers			
Wednesday morning	..	..		Dermatological	..	..	..	Dr. A. B. Shrank			
				Paediatric	..	..	..	Dr. J. C. Macauley			
				Orthodontic	..	..	..	Mr. M. F. Scott			
Wednesday afternoon		..		Chest	..	..	..	Dr. P. E. Perceval			
				Paediatric	..	..	..	Dr. F. P. A. Capps			
Thursday morning	..	..		Medical	..	..	..	Dr. A. W. J. Houghton			
				Ante-natal	..	..	..	Dr. C. W. Shaw			
				After-care	..	..	..	Dr. C. W. Shaw			
				Surgical fitter							
Thursday afternoon	..	..		Orthopaedic	..	..	..	Mr. D. Graff			
				Orthopaedic	..	..	..	Mr. D. Harris			
Friday morning	..	..		Dental	..	..	..	Mr. H. P. Britten			
				Gynaecology	..	..	..	Mr. S. Burke			
				Ante-natal	..	..	..	Dr. C. W. Shaw			
Friday afternoon	..	..		Psychiatric	..	..	..	Dr. D. H. Myers			
				Psychiatric	..	..	..	Dr. C. D. Neal			
				Paediatric	..	..	..	Dr. J. C. Macauley			
				Orthodontic	..	..	..	Mr. M. F. Scott			

Wrekin Hospital and Wellington Cottage Hospital:

Allocated beds and other ancillary services:

Wellington Cottage Hospital

General Practitioner Unit	..	..	..	18 beds (including one private and one amenity bed)
Ancillary Services	..	..	..	First aid to minor accidents and emergency patients

Wrekin Hospital

Beds	..	..	..	..	..	17 pre-convalescent
						5 orthopaedic/geriatric
						28 maternity
						21 female geriatric
						24 male geriatric
						13 chest

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ANCILLARY SERVICES

Monday morning	..	..	..	Relaxation classes in Physiotherapy Department
Monday afternoon	..	..	..	Audiometrician attends for hearing aid repairs
Monday afternoon (alternate)	..	..	..	Pathological technician
Tuesday morning	..	..	..	Pathological technician
Wednesday morning	..	..	..	Pathological technician
Thursday afternoon	..	..	..	Audiometrician attends
Friday morning	..	..	..	Pathological technician
				Relaxation classes in Physiotherapy Department
				Mass Radiography—Wolverhampton unit
Friday afternoon (fourth in month)	..			Group Dietician attends—Dietetic Clinic

General X-ray facilities for general practitioners and consultants.

Physiotherapy Department facilities for the treatment of patients referred by Consultants.

Venereal Disease. A clinic is maintained at No. 1 Belmont, Shrewsbury, where treatment is free and confidential. Clinics are held as follows, and no appointment is needed:

Males	..	Tuesday and Friday	..	6.0 p.m. to 8.0 p.m.
Females	..	Monday		3.30 p.m. to 5.20 p.m.
		Thursday		5.0 p.m. to 7.0 p.m.

(B) Managed by Other Committees

Newport Cottage Hospital is a fifteen-bed General Hospital taking cases from the Newport area, also tonsil and adenoid cases referred from the Staffordshire General Infirmary. The Newport General Practitioners are responsible for the medical staffing, and the E.N.T. Surgery is carried out by Mr. W. D. Paterson, F.R.C.S., who is Consultant E.N.T. Surgeon to the Mid-Staffordshire group of hospitals. There is a small Accident and Emergency Department; minor X-ray and Physiotherapy treatments are also carried out.

The Shifnal Hospitals (Cottage Hospital and Park Street) have 73 beds between them. The latter is a geriatric hospital whilst at the Cottage Hospital there are 21 beds for use by General Practitioners and the acute specialities. Out-patient Clinics are held for Surgery, E.N.T., Orthopaedics and Gynaecology.

The R.A.F. Hospital at Cosford receives civilian patients by arrangement with the Ministry of Defence, and provides a very useful relief for the surgical waiting lists of other hospitals in the district. It also provides a very valuable casualty service for the area. Accidents from the Oakengates/Wellington area have to be taken into Shrewsbury.

(C) Mass Radiography Unit

The mobile unit operating from New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton, continues to visit the Wrekin Hospital each Friday for the purpose of carrying out X-ray examinations of the chest. Patients are referred by General Practitioners, Hospital Staff and the Medical Officers of Health.

During the year the mobile unit carried out a routine screening of personnel at the G.K.N. Sankey Works at Hadley; 3,185 persons were examined.

3. SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE SALOP EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The services of a Family Doctor are provided to all persons by the County of Salop Executive Council; 39 General Practitioners practise in the area.

In September, Wellington was visited by the Minister of Health, Sir Keith Joseph, who opened the new Health Centre. This was built by Salop County Council to provide accommodation for the health services provided by them and for the General Medical Practitioners practising in and around Wellington. Some other groups have provided themselves with up-to-date premises. The population, therefore, have a good choice of the type of practice they prefer, although this is slightly restricted as Wellington is "under-doctored". The Executive Council also provide dental, pharmaceutical and ophthalmic services.

4. PROVIDED BY THE FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION (SEVERN AND WYE BRANCH)

An additional evening clinic was opened in the autumn, and clinics are now held in Wellington on Monday evenings from 7.0 to 8.0 p.m., Tuesday afternoons from 1.30 to 3.30 p.m., and Tuesday evenings from 7.0 to 8.0 p.m.

Advice on how to regulate the number of children they have is given to married women and those about to be married. If there are medical or social reasons for limiting the number of pregnancies, advice is given free, otherwise a modest charge is made.

During 1971

588 women attended the Clinic, of which
256 were new patients
1,837 attendances were made

There is now a variety of methods of contraception available, and one can generally be found to suit all needs.

Women who need advice on contraception often have several small children already, and they find it very difficult to travel. Clinics are urgently needed at Oakengates, Hadley, Donnington, Newport, Shifnal and Albrighton.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1971

	<i>Newport</i> <i>U.D.C.</i>		<i>Oakengates</i> <i>U.D.C.</i>		<i>Wellington</i> <i>U.D.C.</i>		<i>Shifnal</i> <i>R.D.C.</i>		<i>Wellington</i> <i>R.D.C.</i>		<i>Total</i>
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Acute Meningitis	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Dysentery	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Food Poisoning	0	1	2	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	7
Infective Jaundice	4	7	1	2	3	0	1	2	5	7	32
Malaria	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
Measles	36	36	3	2	6	4	37	42	29	25	220
Scarlet Fever	4	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	3	2	13
Tuberculosis—Respiratory ..	1	0	3	0	3	1	0	2	0	1	11
Non-Respiratory ..	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	4
Whooping Cough	0	0	0	0	1	2	11	6	2	4	26

Tuberculosis

	<i>Newport</i> <i>U.D.C.</i>		<i>Oakengates</i> <i>U.D.C.</i>		<i>Wellington</i> <i>U.D.C.</i>		<i>Shifnal</i> <i>R.D.C.</i>		<i>Wellington</i> <i>R.D.C.</i>		<i>Total</i> <i>for Area</i>	
	Cases Notified	Deaths	Cases Notified	Deaths	Cases Notified	Deaths	Cases Notified	Deaths	Cases Notified	Deaths	Cases Notified	Deaths
1960	1	0	8	0	7	2	4	0	11	0	31	2
1961	0	0	7	1	5	1	1	0	8	0	21	2
1962	1	0	3	0	3	0	3	0	7	0	17	0
1963	0	1	7	1	2	1	1	0	11	1	21	4
1964	0	0	3	1	3	0	1	1	12	0	19	2
1965	0	0	6	0	3	2	2	0	4	0	15	2
1966	0	0	1	0	4	3	0	2	3	0	8	5
1967	0	0	2	0	4	0	4	0	3	0	13	0
1968	0	1	8	0	6	0	0	0	4	1	18	2
1969	1	1	7	0	3	1	3	0	3	1	17	3
1970	0	0	2	1	6	2	1	1	6	1	15	5
1971	2	0	3	1	5	1	3	0	2	0	15	2

Measles

The campaign to have all children vaccinated against measles continues, and its effect is apparent in the reduced number of cases notified.

Whooping Cough

Vaccination against this disease reduced the number of cases considerably, and cases that do occur are much modified. However, vaccination is still not a hundred per cent effective, so cases will continue to occur. There was one death during this year, the first for many years.

Influenza

In November reports were received from other parts of the country that cases of Influenza had occurred. In view of this, vaccination was offered to members of local authority staffs. In fact, no outbreak occurred during the year.

Smallpox

In July a letter received from the Chief Medical Officer referred to the remarkable progress made by the World Health Organisation Smallpox Eradication Programme. As a consequence, he now recommends that there is now no need for children to receive routine vaccination for smallpox. In view of this, the need for vigilance to ensure the early detection of any imported case is even greater than before, as a greater part of the population will now be unprotected. It is, of course, still necessary for travellers to areas where eradication has not yet been completed to be protected by recent vaccination.

Food Poisoning

The eleven cases of food poisoning which occurred in the area were sporadic cases, some of them parts of outbreaks occurring in neighbouring authorities. No special comment is called for except, perhaps, to again call attention of the public to the fact that much meat, and particularly frozen poultry, is occasionally infected with Salmonella. This is rendered quite safe by cooking, but it should be remembered that until cooked raw meat and poultry should be kept away from other foods which has already been cooked or intended for consumption without further cooking. This also applies to surfaces of tables, utensils, etc.

Enteric Fever and Cholera

Many persons returning from abroad who have stayed in areas where there were cases of Enteric Fever or Cholera were visited during the year. All, fortunately, with negative results. Cholera, whilst still a killer in undeveloped countries, is unlikely to again become a serious health hazard here as we enjoy hygienic disposal of excreta and a safe water supply. While anti-cholera vaccinations help, it is good hygiene which gives the real protection. Fortunately, also, modern treatment started promptly is very effective.

Rubella (German Measles)

This is not generally a severe illness, but if it occurs in the early weeks of pregnancy, can cause deformity in the baby. Vaccination against this disease is now offered at school to all girls between the ages of eleven and fourteen. It is also available for older women who have not yet had Rubella, especially those at increased risk, such as school teachers, nurses, staff of clinics and nurseries, etc.

Infective Hepatitis

Infective Hepatitis has been a notifiable disease since October, 1968. One death occurred in the area during May, 1968, and when it became notifiable in October, notifications began to be received from the Ketley area. These continued during November and December, and the following January, when it was discovered that the Primary School at Ketley was the focus of infection. All children attending the school who had not yet had the disease were then given prophylactic doses of gammaglobulin. This brought the outbreak to an abrupt halt. Since then there have been scattered sporadic cases round the districts, a further death occurring in March, 1971. During October, 1971, a group of cases occurred in Ketley and also in Newport. Newport had not previously been affected. Investigation revealed that the Newport and Ketley cases were related and visited each other frequently. During November and December the cases notified from Newport increased considerably, reaching a peak during the Christmas week. The outbreak continued into the first quarter of 1972. Cases were of all age groups and sexes. Second cases in the family were common,

and occasionally third and more cases occurred as well. No source has been found, in spite of careful enquiry. Cases occurring outside Newport have almost all been traced to contacts in Newport. All cases have been visited in an endeavour to find a common source of infection, and all household contacts engaged in the handling of food have been excluded from work during the period of presumed infectivity. In seven cases where the risk did not seem to justify such measures, the persons concerned were given prophylactic injections of human immunoglobulin.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, SECTION 47

Two cases of old persons seriously ill and not receiving the necessary care in their own homes were referred to me during the year. In both cases a Magistrate's Order was obtained, but in the end, both persons were persuaded to go into hospital without resistance.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

Water

The East Shropshire Water Board is responsible for public water supplies in the whole area, except for part of Shifnal Rural District, which is supplied by Wolverhampton Corporation.

In view of the possibility of the local water having the property of taking up lead under certain circumstances, persons living in houses with old-fashioned lead plumbing are strongly advised always to run off some water before using it for drinking purposes, especially after the supply has not been used for some time—such as first thing in the morning.

Analysis of the local water supplies indicate that the average level of fluoride in the water is under 0.2 p.p.m. The County Council has asked the Water Board to adjust this to the optimum level of 1 p.p.m. in order to reduce the amount of dental caries. The multiplicity of small sources which are at present being used make this difficult to achieve at the present time. It is to be hoped, however, that when new work is carried out, this important matter will receive attention.

All persons employed on outside work by the Water Board are examined on appointment to ensure that they are not carriers of enteric disease.

An analysis of water samples taken by Public Health Inspectors in the districts are given below:

	<i>Public Supply</i>		<i>Private Supplies</i>		<i>Swimming Baths</i>	
	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
Newport U.D.C. ..	20	2	0	0	12	0
Oakengates U.D.C. ..	2	0	0	0	0	0
Wellington U.D.C. ..	23	0	0	0	28	2
Shifnal R.D.C. ..	88	6	30	5	70	4
Wellington R.D.C. ..	23	2	32	8	22	1

I am indebted to Mr. Frank Earnshaw, General Manager to the Board, for the following report:

- (a) Water supplies in the districts have been maintained at a satisfactory standard of quality and quantities throughout the year. Bacteriological analyses taken at regular intervals at all source works, have given the following results:

Treated Water

<i>Source</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>	<i>Total taken</i>
Shifnal	37	0	37
Lilleshall	36	0	36
Woodfield	36	0	36
Sheriffhales	36	2	38
Newport	37	0	37
Grindleforge	37	0	37

- (b) No action has been required to deal with any form of contamination.

- (c) As indicated in earlier years, I have no details regarding population supplied in each parish, but the most recent estimates for each district council within your district are set out below:

				<i>Total Population</i>	<i>Population supplied direct by Board</i>
Wellington R.D.	..	..	..	30,020	28,120
Wellington U.D.	..	..	..	17,290	17,290
Oakengates U.D.	..	..	..	16,760	16,760
Shifnal R.D. (part)	..	..	..	9,220	8,080
Newport U.D.	..	..	..	7,020	7,020

Standpipes are not utilised for domestic supplies within the districts.

- (d) The fluoride content of all water supplied is less than 0.2 p.p.m.
- (e) In all cases, supplies are derived from boreholes in the bunter sandstone and the water derived is generally of a low bacteriological count, if any, prior to sterilisation. Treatment is limited to simple chlorination so as to provide a residual of approximately 0.2 p.p.m. at the outlet from the station. In most cases, chlorine is fed direct into the borehole and consequently checks on the raw water quality are only made at infrequent intervals.

Results of these checks are indicated below:

<i>Source</i>				<i>Untreated Water Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>	<i>Total taken</i>
Shifnal	..	..	..	12	0	12
Lilleshall	..	..	..	11	1	12
Woodfield	..	..	..	12	0	12
Sheriffhales	..	..	..	12	0	12
Newport	..	..	..	12	0	12

- (f) No further checks have been made on plumbo solvent action since 1967, but the maintained improvement to the quality of water from the Woodfield source (into Wellington district) will mitigate this chemical action.

A schedule of chemical analyses is given below:

Chemical Content

	<i>Telford (Grindleforgie)</i>	<i>Dawley & Shifnal (Shifnal)</i>	<i>Wellington (Woodfield)</i>	<i>Oakengates (Sheriffhales)</i>	<i>Donnington (Lilleshall)</i>
pH	8.2	7.6	7.4	7.7	7.5
Chloride (Cl)	17	25	127	23	31
Ammonia Free and Saline ..	Less than 0.005	0.005	0.006	Less than 0.005	Less than 0.005
Ammonia Albuminoid (N) ..	Less than 0.005)	0.021	0.028	0.010	0.024
Nitrate (N)	2.4	5.8	1.9	9.4	8.4
Nitrite (N)	Less than 0.005	Less than 0.005	Less than 0.01	—	—
Total Solids	206	439	565	370	417
Oxygen Absorbed	—	—	—	—	—
Total Hardness (CaCO ₃) ..	178	281	320	186	276
Calcium (CaCO ₃)	145	260	240	175	250
Fluoride (F)	—	—	Less than 0.1	—	—
Free Carbon Dioxide.. .. .	—	10.1	1.8	—	—
Iron (Fe)	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	Less than 0.02
Copper (Cu)	0.02	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.02
Lead (Pb)	0.02	Less than 0.01	0.04	0.02	0.01
Manganese (Mn)	0.02	Less than 0.01	0.01	Less than 0.01	0.01

Mr. W. C. Johnson, Engineer and Manager of the Wolverhampton Corporation Water Undertaking, reports as follows:

Section One

- (a) The water supplied to the area has been satisfactory in (i) quality and (ii) quantity.
- (b) No instances of contamination occurred.
- (c) (i) Population supplied by piped supplies (31st March, 1971):

	<i>Estimated No. of Houses</i>	<i>Estimated Population</i>
Shifnal Rural District	1,980	6,863

- (ii) There are no supplies to standpipes.
- (d) No artificial fluoridation of the water supply is carried out. Natural fluoride content at any point within the supply area will fall into the range 0.020—0.13 p.p.m. (as F).

Section Two

- (a) Number of samples examined:

Bacteriological	3,410
Microbiological	26
Biological	516
Chemical	1,224
	<u>5,176</u>

Results:

- (i) Bacteriological:

	<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>No. Of Samples containing</i>			
		0	1-2	3-10	Over 10
		Coliform organisms per 100 ml.			
Water before and during treatment ..	1,016	947	14	2	53*
Water going into distribution	1,219	1,188	25	3	3
Water in distribution system	654	650	2	0	2
Miscellaneous samples	521	—	—	—	—

* 52 River Worfe Raw Water

Regular analyses are carried out on the water from the distribution mains, reservoirs, tanks and repumping stations. Water in the system generally consists of a mixture from various sources of supply and consequently the chemical composition is variable.

The waters supplied are not plumbo-solvent, as indicated in earlier surveys.

The Undertaking's advice to consumers has always been:

- (i) never use the hot water for culinary or drinking purposes; and
- (ii) allow the cold tap to run for a few seconds before use first thing in the morning.

The recent surveys re-affirm these views.

MICROBIOLOGICAL

As in previous years, taste-producing micro-fungi are isolated using membrane filtration followed by incubation on Rose Bengal Agar.

BIOLOGICAL

(a) Algology

Routine counts on the untreated and treated waters at Cosford and those having passed through the open reservoirs at Tettenhall continued at weekly intervals throughout the year.

In the River Worfe, the spring peak occurred in April, when 31,080 organisms per 10 ml. were estimated. The dominant members were *Synedra*, *Chlorella*, *Chlamydomonas*, *Characium*, *Stephanodiscus* and *Navicula*. The ratio of Greens : Diatoms was 1.6 : 1. The autumn peak (9,980) occurred in September, when the ratio of Greens : Diatoms was 1 : 2.9 and the dominant member was *Stephanodiscus*.

Surprisingly high counts were recorded throughout the winter period of 1970/71, possibly attributable to the very mild weather.

In the Tettenhall reservoirs the normal growth pattern is suppressed by dosing with copper sulphate. Each reservoir showed only one peak, No. 1 in April (381), predominant species *Characium* (Greens : Diatoms 380 : 1), and in July (172), predominant species *Characium* (Greens : Diatoms 33 : 1).

Chemical Content

Results in milligrams per litre (parts per million) unless stated otherwise

Source of Supply: Cosford Waterworks

Total Hardness (as CaCO ₃)						Total Alkalinity (as CaCO ₃)			Sodium (as Na)			Chloride (as Cl)			Total Dissolved Solids		
Milligr/Litre			Degrees Clark														
Min.	Av.	Max.	Min.	Av.	Max.	Min.	Av.	Max.	Min.	Av.	Max.	Min.	Av.	Max.	Min.	Av.	Max.
240	263	279	17	19	20	117	148	157	9	20	25	42	46	49	312	436	557

HOUSING

Steady progress has been made throughout the area with the clearing away of sub-standard property, and an increasing amount of old property is being improved with improvement grants (see Housing Statistics at the end of this Report). Pre-war Council houses are also being improved: 44 in Newport, 60 in Oakengates, 449 in Wellington Urban District, 18 in Shifnal, and 250 in Wellington Rural District. In addition, many post-war houses have been improved by the insertion of central heating, etc. Oakengates Urban District and Wellington Urban District both have Improvement Areas under active consideration. A hundred-bedded Hostel for European Voluntary Workers is being planned by Wellington Rural District Council.

There has been a special emphasis on the provision of housing for old persons in recent years. Newport now has 86 flats and bungalows, 39 of which have a Warden Service; Oakengates have 199, 24 of which have a Warden Service; Wellington Urban District have 132, 20 of which have a Warden Service; Shifnal have 227, 45 of which have a Warden Service; Wellington Rural District have 567, 103 of which have a Warden Service. More recently built bungalows all have wide doors and are adaptable for use by handicapped persons with wheel chairs.

Great efforts are made by all authorities to avoid the eviction of families with children from Council houses, and with the help of the Department of Social Services of the County Council, only five such evictions took place in the area during the year.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Good progress was made in the rural areas during the year, and the villages of New Works, Edgmond, Kemberton and Sheriffhales now enjoy main drainage.

Development in the urban parts of Wellington Rural District are, however, still held up by lack of drainage facilities. It has now been agreed that the part of Telford north of the A5 will be drained into a new disposal works at Rushmore. This will be built by the Telford New Town Corporation and, pending Ministry approval, the necessary land has been acquired and design work is well advanced. The first phase of the new scheme has been specially designed to give early relief to that part of the Rural District which is at present in difficulty.

SCAVENGING AND REFUSE DISPOSAL

Four authorities have now commenced a change-over to the paper sack method of refuse collection, and two authorities are well on the way to eliminating dustbins altogether. This is proving a very satisfactory means of collection and eliminates completely danger to health from dust and flies. The finding of suitable sites for the tipping of refuse continues to be very difficult in the Wellington Rural and Urban Districts and Oakengates Urban District. A Joint Committee, which also includes Dawley Urban District, have employed a firm of consultants to advise them. The Councils have accepted recommendations that an incinerator be built. A site has been settled and it is hoped that work will commence soon.

HEALTH EDUCATION

The successful distribution of a leaflet on Breast Cancer in 1970 was followed up this year with a leaflet on the early detection of Cancer of the Cervix, which was distributed to all households with the rate demands and rent books. This resulted in a satisfactory increase in attendance for the Smear Test at local doctors' surgeries and the Cervical Cytology Clinics run by the local health authority and by the hospitals.

During the year three Smokers' Clinics were held at the Recreation Centre at Ketley. These were run by Pastor Burgess, of Shrewsbury, with the assistance of Mr. Harris, the Health Education Officer of the County Council. The "Clinics" each consisted of five consecutive evenings of group therapy. Fifty-nine persons attended and the initial success rate was very encouraging. In view of the fact that an increasing number of people are giving up smoking and find smoke-filled rooms unpleasant, "No Smoking" notices were sent to all workplaces, offices, shops, clubs and places of entertainment for them to display in smoke-free areas. Several requests for further copies were received.

RODENT CONTROL

North East Salop Joint Pests Control Committee

Rodent Control is carried out jointly by Newport Urban District, Shifnal and Wellington Rural Districts and Wellington Urban District. The Joint Committee employ two rodent operatives, and the work is under the direction of Mr. J. K. Addison, Chief Public Health Inspector of the Wellington Urban District. Surveys and treatments for rats and mice are carried out at the request of the Public Health Inspectors. Each Council, individually, enters into contracts for rodent control. These premises are given regular routine inspections by the operatives and treatments are carried out as necessary. Urban sewers are poisoned regularly.

Warfarin (0.025%) is used almost exclusively for both rats and mice. Warfarin is a relatively safe poison, but a stronger poison has to be used occasionally when an infestation is difficult to clear. This is more usually found to be necessary for mice. Warfarin resistant rats have not so far appeared in the area. In the deep sewers, Fluoroacetamide is used. This is a very effective poison, which has cleared the sewers of regular rat infestations. It is too dangerous a poison to be used elsewhere.

Domestic premises are usually treated free of charge but, because we find that mice in dwellings tend to take up a disproportionate amount of the operative's time, we arrange for a supply of warfarin in bags, together with bait trays and instruction sheets, to be available at Council Offices. Where appropriate, householders can be asked to carry out their own treatments.

A charge is made for treating all commercial premises, either for a single treatment or by way of an annual contract.

Newport (Salop) Urban District Council

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman: MR. L. G. BONIFACE

MR. D. R. ADAMS
MR. R. J. BUTTER
MR. A. W. HARDING
MRS. J. D. FORTUNE
MR. H. HASELEY
MR. J. W. WILSON

MRS. L. J. MADDOCK
MR. M. F. MILES
MRS. H. M. ROBINSON
MR. D. T. WILBRAHAM
MRS. V. M. JONES

Mr. K. A. Griffiths, Chief Public Health Inspector, reports:

WATER SUPPLY

All but one of the premises within the Urban District are supplied with water by the East Shropshire Water Board, the exception being an isolated farm which is supplied by means of its own well.

New mains have been laid to facilitate all new housing developments.

Routine bacteriological sampling continued throughout the year, and of the twenty-two samples that were taken, only two proved to be unsatisfactory. Check samples of these were later taken and these proved to be satisfactory.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

By the end of the year the extensions to the Broomfield Road Sewage Purification Works were completed, except for some minor alterations, and the works are now capable of serving a population of approximately 9,000 and producing an effluent to the 20 : 15 standard. No serious difficulties were encountered, and of 38 final effluent samples taken during the year, 29 were satisfactory and 9 unsatisfactory.

New sewers were constructed to serve the considerable amount of new development in the town.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

A weekly collection of trade refuse has been maintained and a twice weekly collection has been made in some instances in an effort to facilitate traders.

The paper sack system of refuse collection was introduced to two-thirds of the town in two stages during the year and this proved to be very satisfactory. When the system is introduced to the remaining part of the town in the spring of 1972, the overall saving in time and manpower will allow an ample expansion margin for the town's ever-increasing population.

The year was relatively free from complaints concerning the Council's Vineyard Road tip, due mainly to the continuous levelling and covering of freshly tipped refuse by the J.C.B. excavator. Some problems were caused by unauthorised tipping, but these were largely remedied by the introduction of a new system whereby private tipping is allowed only after written permission has been obtained from the Office.

SCHEDULE OF FOOD PREMISES

1. *Manufacturers Registered*

(a) Bakers	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
(b) Sausage and Pie Makers	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
(c) Ice Cream Makers	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
(d) Others	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil

2. <i>Distributors</i>						
(a) Butchers	..	..	..	..	..	10
(b) Bakers	..	..	..	..	..	10
(c) Grocers	..	..	..	..	..	19
(d) Fishmongers	..	..	..	..	..	3
(e) Greengrocers	..	..	..	..	..	6
(f) Wholesale Depot	..	..	..	..	..	1
(g) Mobile Shops	..	..	..	..	..	2
(h) Ice Cream Sellers	..	..	..	..	..	21
(i) Dairies	..	..	..	..	..	2
(j) Sweets	..	..	..	..	..	7
3. <i>Markets</i>						
Market Stalls	..	..	..	..	..	9
4. <i>Caterers</i>						
(a) Cafes and Restaurants	..	..	..	..	..	7
(b) Public Houses, Hotels, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	15
(c) Canteens—Industrial	..	..	..	..	..	2 + 2 at Hospital
(d) Canteens—School	..	..	..	..	..	6 (4, Audley House)
(e) Fish Fryers..	..	..	..	..	..	2
(f) Clubs	..	..	..	..	..	8
5. <i>Slaughterhouses</i>						
	..	..	..	..	..	3

FOOD HYGIENE

During the year regular inspections of food premises were carried out and the majority of premises were found to be satisfactory. Contraventions of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1970 were found in some instances and the necessary verbal and written notices were issued to the owners concerned. In almost all of these cases the contraventions listed were remedied speedily, thus obviating the need for any further action.

FOOD FITNESS

Five complaints concerning foodstuffs were brought to the attention of the department during the year.

- (i) Alleged peculiar taste in a pork pie
- (ii) Mouldy condition of a pork pie
- (iii) Unsound condition of vacuum sealed bacon
- (iv) Dirty condition of milk bottles
- (v) Unsound condition of vacuum sealed bacon

No action was taken in case number (i) following the Analyst's report that nothing could be found in the pork pie that would account for its alleged peculiar taste.

In case numbers (ii), (iii) and (iv) the necessary investigations were carried out and warning letters were sent to the persons responsible.

Case number (v) was the second complaint concerning the unsound condition of vacuum sealed bacon despite a warning letter to the packers, and the Council therefore decided that legal proceedings should be instituted on this occasion.

During routine inspections of foodshops a substantial amount of time was again spent checking that commodities which had been date coded were not displayed for sale after the expiry date. An attempt to educate retailers on the importance of this matter appears to have been successful and the majority now ensure that stocks are rotated efficiently and that codings are regularly checked.

MEAT INSPECTION

One hundred per cent meat inspection was carried out at the two slaughterhouses which operated during the year. No killing was carried out at the third slaughterhouse, and it is the owner's intention not to renew the licence when it expires at the end of the year. Notifications of slaughter were received in respect of 71 cattle, 815 sheep, 243 pigs and 1 calf.

<i>Carcases inspected and condemned</i>	<i>Cattle (excluding Cows)</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed	71	Nil	1	815	243
Number not inspected	—	—	—	—	—
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</i>					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	9	—	—	5	32
<i>Tuberculosis only</i>					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	—	—	—	—	4
<i>Cysticerci</i>					
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

CONDEMNED FOOD

Weight of meat and offal condemned	1 cwt. 19 lbs.
<i>Quantity of food voluntarily surrendered</i>	
(i) Weight of miscellaneous foodstuffs	5 cwt. 43 lbs.
(ii) Number of packets of food	409
(iii) Number of tinned goods (not counted in (i)) ..	24
(iv) Eggs	20 dozen

SAMPLES OBTAINED IN NEWPORT URBAN DISTRICT

<i>Food and Drugs Act, 1955</i>	
<i>Milk</i>	<i>Other Foods and Drugs</i>
Pasteurised 3	Cornish Pasties 1
Channel Island Pasteurised 1	Vodka 1
Sterilised 1	Whisky 1
Bulk untreated ex-farm.. .. . 17	Foot Cream 1
	Cane Cyrrup 1
	Dried Mixed Vegetables 1
	Bread Mix 1
	Chocolates 1
	Yeast Tablets 1
—	—
23	9
==	==

The above samples were satisfactory.

Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Area) Order, 1957

	<i>Samples Obtained</i>	<i>Phosphatase Test</i>	<i>Methylene Blue Test</i>		
		<i>Passed</i>	<i>Passed</i>	<i>Failed</i>	<i>Void</i>
Pasteurised	31	31	26	—	5
Channel Islands Pasteurised ..	13	13	10	—	3
	44				

KNACKERS' YARDS, ETC.

There are no knackers' yards, maggot farms or other offensive trade premises within the Urban District.

POULTRY INSPECTION

There are no poultry processing premises within the Urban District.

HOUSING

The total number of occupied houses in the Urban District is 2,501, of which 675 are Council owned. The Registrar General's estimated mid-year population is 7,020, giving a rise of 390 since 1970. The Urban District covers an area of 903 acres. The population density is therefore 7.99 persons/acre.

The rateable value is £261,845.00 and the product of a penny rate is £2,477.00.

No demolition or closing orders were made during the year.

The number of applications for grant aid during the year was again disappointingly small amounting to only two applications for Discretionary Grant and seven applications for Standard Grant. The improvements in two of the applications, however, involved the conversion of two large properties into nine flats.

The Council themselves have continued to use the facility of grants to great advantage and improvements and alterations were carried out in 26 houses during 1971, making a total of 74 houses which have been improved during the last three years.

Over 150 houses were built by private enterprise during the year, and plans for more new housing development are likely to be approved in 1972.

NOISE ABATEMENT

Complaints concerning minor noise nuisances were received and after investigation most of the nuisances were remedied by tactful help and advice.

Major noise nuisances were once again avoided due mainly to careful planning control and co-operation from factory personnel and members of the public.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

(a) REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

<i>Class of Premises</i>	<i>Number of premises registered during the year</i>	<i>Number of registered premises at the end of the year</i>	<i>Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year</i>
Offices	Nil	26	7
Retail Shops	4	73	16
Wholesale shops, warehouses	Nil	1	Nil
Catering establishments open to public, canteens ..	1	13	8
Fuel storage depots	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total ..	5	113	31

Analysis of Persons Employed

<i>Class of Workshop</i>	<i>Number of Persons Employed</i>
Offices	139
Retail Shops	301
Wholesale Departments	4
Catering Establishments	83
Canteens	Nil
Fuel Storage Depots	Nil
Total	527
Total Males	192
Total Females	335

Total number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises under the Act .. 47

Several minor contraventions of the Act were found during the year. Informal letters were sent notifying the persons responsible and in the majority of cases the contraventions have now been remedied.

Agricultural Welfare and Safety Regulations

Nil action.

Hazards to Council Employees

Nil.

Factories Act

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (inspections made by Public Health Inspectors):

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on register</i>	<i>Number</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i>
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority	0	0	0	0
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	43	24	0	0
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises), <i>e.g.</i> , building sites, etc.	7	5	0	0
Total ..	50	29	0	0

PEST CONTROL

Rodent infestations are treated by the N.E.S.J.P.C.C. on behalf of the U.D.C. Several commercial and industrial premises remain on a contractual basis. Domestic premises are treated free of charge.

Rodent control presented few problems due to speedy notification of infestations by the public and the subsequent prompt action by the rodent operatives.

Minor infestations of insects were reported during the summer, and advice was given in all cases.

GENERAL ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Nuisances

Several complaints of nuisances were reported during the year and the necessary investigations were made. Where the complaints were justified the nuisances were abated by means of informal action.

Caravans

The fencing and gating of vacant pieces of land in the Urban District have deterred the parking of itinerants' caravans and vehicles and the problems encountered therefore have been negligible.

Atmospheric Pollution

The industrial plant in the town continues to be operated within the limits of the current legislation, keeping pollution at a minimum. During the year notifications concerning the erection of a chimney and the installation of a furnace were received together with the appropriate plans and specifications in accordance with the Clean Air Act, 1956.

Pet Shops, Animal Boarding and Riding Establishments

Only one shop in the Urban District is licensed to keep pets, and the premises fully comply with the provisions of the Act.

There are no premises licensed as Animal Boarding Establishments.

There are no Riding Establishments.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no common lodging houses within the Urban District.

Infectious Diseases

Numerous visits and investigations were made during the year following notifications received relating to cases of Infectious Hepatitis, Salmonella and Dysentery.

Public Lavatories and Public Cleansing

The employment of a semi-retired workman and his wife as part-time cleaners/attendants has enabled the public conveniences to be kept clean and in good working order, and has also helped to reduce the amount of vandalism.

Street Sweeping

Two workmen have been employed full-time on street sweeping and have maintained the roads in a clean and tidy condition.

Some mechanical trouble was experienced with the pedestrian operated sweeper but it is hoped that these problems will be resolved during 1972.

Oakengates Urban District Council

HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE, 1971

Chairman: MR. C. S. BERRYMAN

Vice-Chairman: MR. J. E. SMART, J.P.

Committee:

MR. H. R. BRADSHAW	MR. H. R. GIBBONS
MR. C. BRIGGS	MRS. C. H. GRIGG
MRS. L. I. BUTLER, J.P.	MR. J. H. HANCOCKS
MR. C. BUTTERY, J.P.	MR. B. M. NORTON
MR. J. K. CORBETT	MRS. A. WILKINSON
MR. M. J. DAVIES, J.P.	MR. F. WOOD

Mr. A. H. Johnstone, Chief Public Health Inspector, reports:

WATER SUPPLY

The supply is derived from deep boreholes at the East Shropshire Water Board's Hilton Bank and Sheriffhales pumping stations, which are situated near the village of Sheriffhales. These boreholes are sunk into the Bunter sandstone and the water is abstracted by submersible pumps, which pump the water to a storage reservoir at Redhill. The water is chlorinated at the pumping stations and regular weekly samples have indicated that this source was bacteriologically satisfactory at all times during the year. The average quantity pumped daily to Redhill was approximately 1,050,000 gallons.

From Redhill reservoir, mains convey the water direct to the centre of Oakengates *via* subsidiary reservoirs at Snedshill and Cockshutt to the outlying parts of the district.

The water supply of the area and its several parts has been satisfactory in quantity.

6,154 houses are supplied from public mains direct to the house.

Four houses are supplied from the public mains by means of standpipes.

Fluoride is not added to the water supply at present.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The plant, opened in June, 1967, is designed to deal with sewage for a population of 16,000, but capable with extension to cope with a capacity of 24,000 population. Samples of effluent proved satisfactory on 17 occasions.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The refuse service continues to give satisfaction generally to the residents; few criticisms or complaints have arisen during the year.

Several joint meetings have been held with neighbouring authorities considering refuse disposal. General agreement was reached on the need for incineration, in view of the impact of the new town and the shortage of available tipping sites.

Consultants were engaged to investigate the project and to consider the siting of a joint plant. Their detailed and concise report has now been produced, which is awaiting the decision of the joint committee.

SALVAGE

Salvage continues to be collected in trailers drawn behind the refuse vehicles. This obviates the necessity of dealing with the paper at the refuse tip with the consequent danger of fire.
The following table indicates quantities and value for the year:

	<i>Tons</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>0</i>
Mixed Waste Paper ..	47.92	489	72
Cardboard	57.01	682	88
Newsprint	59.09	738	60
	164.02	1,911	20

FOOD HYGIENE

The following is a list of manufacturers, distributors and caterers in the Urban Area:

<i>Manufacturers Registered:</i>									
(a) Bakers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
(b) Sausage and pie makers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
(c) Ice cream makers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
(d) Others	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
<i>Distributors:</i>									
(a) Butchers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
(b) Bakers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
(c) Grocers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	69
(d) Fishmongers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
(e) Market stalls	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
(f) Greengrocers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
(g) Wholesale depots	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
(h) Mobile shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
(i) Ice cream sellers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	69
(j) Dairies	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
<i>Caterers:</i>									
(a) Cafes and restaurants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
(b) Hotels and guest houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
(c) Canteens—school	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
(d) Canteens—industrial	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
(e) Fish fryers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
<i>Licensed Premises</i>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	44

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960

(1) Number of premises	234
(2) Number of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 16 ..	175
(3) Number of premises to which Regulation 19 applies ..	59
(4) Number of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 19 ..	59

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (SPECIFIED AREA) ORDER, 1957

<i>Samples Obtained</i>	<i>Phosphatase Test Passed</i>	<i>Methylene Blue Test</i>			<i>Turbidity Test Passed</i>	<i>Colony Count</i>
		<i>Passed</i>	<i>Failed</i>	<i>Void</i>		
Pasteurised	50	46	—	4	—	—
Channel Islands Pasteurised	14	13	—	1	—	—
Untreated Farm Bottled	1	1	—	—	—	—
Untreated Channel Islands Farm Bottled ..	3	2	1	—	—	—
Sterilised	3	—	—	—	3	—
Ultra Heat Treated	2	—	—	—	—	2
73						

Warning letters were sent to the dealers concerned in respect of the above Methylene Blue failures.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

The following are the samples obtained in this district by the Salop County Council for analysis:

MILK					
Pasteurised	..	..	..	..	6
Channel Islands Pasteurised	..	..	..	..	6
Untreated Farm Bottled	..	..	..	..	4
Bulk Untreated ex-Farm	..	..	..	..	49
Sterilised	..	..	..	..	2
					67

All the above samples proved to be satisfactory.

OTHER FOOD AND DRUGS									
Condensed Milk	..	..	..	..	1	Soap Powder	..	..	1
Pork Sausage with Preservative	..	..	..	..	1	Vitamin and Mineral Food Supplement	..	..	1
Lard	..	..	..	..	1	Tonic	..	..	1
Dairy Ice Cream	..	..	..	..	2	Wine Cocktail	..	..	1
Rum	..	..	..	..	1	Orange Drink Powder	..	..	1
Table Jellies	..	..	..	..	1	Shredded Wheat	..	..	1
Tripe	..	..	..	..	1	Baby Cereal	..	..	1
Dried Skimmed Milk Powder	..	..	..	..	1	Chicken Soup	..	..	1
Pork Pies	..	..	..	..	1	Tomato Ketchup	..	..	1
Canned Steak with Gravy	..	..	..	..	1	Pork Sausage Slices	..	..	1
Faggots	..	..	..	..	1				23
Non-Fat Soft Cheese	..	..	..	..	1				

The above samples proved satisfactory.

Storage of Ice Cream

Legal proceedings were taken against a person using unregistered premises for the storage of ice cream intended for sale. At the Magistrates’ Court the defendant was found Guilty and fined £10 with £15 advocate’s fee.

Sampling—Ice Cream

Total number of samples taken for bacteriological examination .. 69

LABORATORY REPORTS ON ICE CREAM SAMPLES

Grade	Vehicles				Premises			
	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV
Soft Ice Cream	3	1	3	5	—	—	—	—
Other Ice Cream ..	13	4	4	7	28	1	—	—

WATER SAMPLES

Samples of water from the public supply were submitted for bacteriological examination and found to be “highly satisfactory”.

Food Condemned

The following table indicates the quantity of food voluntarily surrendered:

<i>Tinned Foods</i>	<i>Frozen Foods</i>	<i>Fresh Foods</i>
Meat and Fish .. 624 tins	Meat .. 154 packs	Meat .. 2,109 lbs.
Fruit .. 56 tins	Fish .. 236 packs	Poultry .. 280 lbs.
Vegetables .. 195 tins	Vegetables .. 196 packs	Fish .. 30 lbs.
	Ice Cream .. 342 packs	
	+ 12 gallons	
	Others .. 25 packs	
875 tins	953 packs	2,419 lbs.

FOOD AND DRUGS

There are no poultry or slaughtering establishments in the district. Local butchers purchase their requirements either off the hook at the Shrewsbury or Wellington markets, or purchase live animals at the auction and have them slaughtered at either of these centres.

KNACKER’S YARD

There is one Knacker’s Yard in the district. The following table indicates the number of animals dealt with during the year:

Foals	20
Cattle	786
Horses	31
Donkeys	2
Calves	1,750
Sheep	1,095
Pigs	995
Goats	2
Total ..	4,681

MAGGOT BREEDING

The owner of the Knacker’s Yard produces maggots in an adjoining property. Despite frequent visits to the premises, difficulties do arise. Fishermen use the maggots as bait.

HOUSING

This important phase of the Department’s activities has been actively pursued. It has been possible to progressively rehouse from unfit dwellings, both individually, and in Clearance Areas, to make available sites for future building.

The following table gives a sketch of activity in this field:

Unfit houses closed	0
Houses demolished in Clearance Areas	52
Individual unfit houses demolished	26
Persons displaced in Clearance Areas	25
Persons displaced in individual unfit houses	17
Families displaced: Clearance Areas	14
Individual unfit houses	7

HOUSING STATISTICS, 1971

1. Total number of houses in district	6,281
2. Total number of houses owned by Local Authority	1,727
3. Overcrowding:	
(a) Number of houses overcrowded	0
(b) Number of overcrowded families rehoused in year	0
4. Number of houses erected during the year for Slum Clearance by:	
(a) Local Authority	20
5. Number of houses erected during the year for other purposes by:	
(a) Local Authority	22
(b) Private Enterprise	159
6. Number of post-war houses erected from 1st April, 1945, by:	
(a) Local Authority	1,537
(b) Private Enterprise	2,715
7. Total number of applicants on Housing List at end of year	225
8. Standard Grants:	
Number of dwellings in applications approved	27

One house was demolished by the Authority in default of the owner. Difficulties do arise in Clearance Areas when some of the tenants are rehoused. Vandals enter and steal lead and fittings, leaving a derelict site.

Oakengates U.D.C. No. 3 (Priorslee Village) Clearance Order, 1968

The above Clearance Order contains fifteen dwellings, housing thirty-one adults and twelve children. After being submitted to the Ministry on the 24th January, 1969, for confirmation, was subsequently withdrawn after a signed undertaking was given by the Lilleshall Co. Ltd. that the dwellings would not be relet when the tenants were rehoused.

Considerable publicity has surrounded the dwellings, where there is some thought of preserving the village in character.

Slum Clearance Circular 92/69

The following table gives the projected action in regard to sub-standard houses within the district:

Slum Clearance, 1972-73

	1972	1973
1. Part III. (a) Houses in areas to be declared	25	24
(b) Houses to be cleared	31	30
2. Part II. Houses likely to be subject to demolition or closing orders ..	6	6

STANDARD GRANTS

It is hoped that with increased grants it will be possible to provide amenities in dwellings in which they are lacking, improving living conditions and preserving the stock of fit dwellings.

Twenty-seven applications were approved at an average grant by the Council of £214.

NEWFIELD HOUSE

This is a group of 24 units providing accommodation for elderly people, with a communal room. There is one dwelling which is specially adapted for the requirements of a disabled person, permitting her to remain with her family.

NOISE ABATEMENT

There is little doubt that strict planning control can minimise noise penetrating houses and residential areas.

Past planning has contributed to this factor by permitting the building of houses in proximity to factories; likewise factories growing up in housing developments.

Several complaints have been dealt with. Noise is a personal problem: loud radios, which give pleasure to some people, are a painful nuisance to others who seek peace and quiet.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

TABLE A

Registration and General Inspection

<i>Class of Premises</i>	<i>Number of premises registered during the year</i>	<i>Total number of registered premises at end of year</i>	<i>Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year</i>
Offices	—	24	20
Retail shops	4	86	72
Wholesale shops, etc.	—	4	4
Catering establishments	—	50	50
Fuel storage depots	—	1	—
	4	165	146

TABLE B

Number of Visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises .. 184

TABLE C

Analysis of Persons employed in Registered Premises by Workplace

<i>Class of Workplace</i>	<i>Number of Persons employed</i>
Offices	133
Retail shops	396
Wholesale departments, warehouses	25
Catering establishments open to public	131
Canteens	2
Fuel storage depots	6
Total	693
Total Males	243
Total Females	450

This is regarded as a special duty, to safeguard the health of people spending a third of their lives in the various premises.

PEST CONTROL

The following table indicates measures of rodent control undertaken during the year:

1. Number of properties in district	6,564
2. Properties inspected following notification	325
(a) Number infested by rats	191
(b) Number infested by mice	20
3. Properties inspected for reasons other than notification ..	151
(a) Number infested by rats	50
(b) Number infested by mice	5
4. Sewers—the sewer system received attention	

CARAVANS

There are several caravans in the district, belonging to individual owners of the sites who, whilst it is their home, maintain surrounding conditions in a satisfactory state.

Periodically the roaming van salesmen visit the district, but their stay is usually short by our persuasion.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Whilst the district is classed as industrial, atmospheric pollution is held at acceptable levels by the industries availing themselves of equipment to keep effluent pollution at a minimum.

PET SHOPS AND ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS

There are three pet shops and one animal boarding establishment in the district: all are well conducted, with attention to hygiene being strictly adhered to.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i>
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities	1	1	0	0
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 enforced by Local Authority	51	25	4	0
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	2	2	0	0
Total	54	28	4	0

	Number of cases in which defects were				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	3	3	0	1	0
Overcrowding (S.2)	0	0	0	0	0
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ..	0	0	0	0	0
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ..	0	0	0	0	0
Total	3	3	0	1	0

Wellington (Salop) Urban District Council

HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman: MR. T. H. BROADHURST

MISS I. BRAITHWAITE

MRS. A. FOWLER

MR. R. HALL

MRS. B. O. MASON

MRS. J. C. DAVIDSON

MR. E. A. E. GRIFFITHS

MR. C. T. JAY

MRS. F. M. M. SHAW

Mr. J. K. Addison, Chief Public Health Inspector, reports:

FOOD HYGIENE

During the year there was some national publicity about the poor standard of glass-washing in many public houses. In order to ensure that conditions in Wellington were satisfactory, all licensed premises were inspected and, where necessary, the owners were asked to improve the facilities for glass washing and provide a hand wash basin behind the bar. More important still, at those houses which were not already doing so, they have been asked to use a bactericidal/detergent for washing up.

All catering premises are being asked to use a bactericidal/detergent for washing up and for cleaning food equipment and working surfaces. A list of suitable products with names of manufacturers' and local agents has been supplied so that there should be no difficulty in getting the right material.

There has also been a lot of publicity about the dangers of introducing salmonella poisoning bacteria into food premises with frozen poultry. The wide use of bactericides in the kitchen will help to reduce this danger. Two circulars were sent to food premises on the subject of food hygiene. These dealt with general points including the use of bactericidal/detergents.

A mobile food hygiene exhibition visited Wellington in May. Managers of food businesses were urged to send their staff to see the exhibition, which was also open to the public and to schools.

Perishable food continues to be a matter for concern. In some shops insufficient attention is being given to shelf life and checking of the date code. Meat pies, sausage rolls and sausages have a short shelf-life. If the shelf life is exceeded, the customer gets food which is, at best, merely stale. At worst, it may be, by the time it comes to be eaten, unwholesome or likely to cause illness. The customer can be at fault. He often expects food to keep longer than it will do, but the retailer should be in no doubt. He should know how long each article has been in his possession and it should be removed from sale at the end of its safe shelf life. Retailers should guard against having stale food delivered to their shops by putting their own date mark on the packets.

Other foods have a longer shelf life. These almost always have a date code already on the packet, which can easily be checked; even so, outdated packets of cakes and other foods can often be found on sale. Shop managers should be vigilant about this matter. The food in the packet should still be sound for several days after the expiry date but, if it should turn out to be otherwise, the manufacturers' warranty will not apply. The retailer must take full responsibility for food sold after the code date has expired.

These are points which the customer can take note of too. The date codes are easily seen on the packets, they can usually be easily deciphered. They denote the date by which the food should be sold.

FOOD COMPLAINTS

There was an average of one complaint a week from members of the public either about food hygiene in shops or about food itself. These were all thoroughly investigated and the Council authorised legal proceedings against two firms. One case related to a packet of cakes affected by mould, the other to a vacuum pack of Gammon rashers which were unfit for human consumption.

FOOD PREMISES

The number of different types of food premises in this district is set out in the following table:

<i>Manufacturers Registered:</i>							
(a) Bakers	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
(b) Sausage and pie makers				..	..	..	4
(c) Ice cream makers			..	..	..	..	0
(d) Others	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
<i>Distributors:</i>							
(a) Butchers	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
(b) Bakers	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
(c) Grocers, including sweets and biscuits..						..	50
(d) Fishmongers	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
(e) Greengrocers	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
(f) Wholesale depots..			..	..	..	..	3
(g) Mobile shops (based in district)					..	..	11
(h) Ice cream sellers			..	..	..	..	43
(i) Dairies	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
<i>Markets</i>	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
<i>Caterers:</i>							
(a) Cafes, restaurants and clubs	..	..	..	..	..	..	37
(b) Hotels and guest houses..			..	..	..	..	18
(c) Public houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	33
(d) Canteens—industrial	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
(e) Canteens—school	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
(f) Fish fryers	..	..	..	..	..	..	4

SAMPLING—ICE CREAM

All the samples of soft ice cream were taken from the same vendor. His vehicles are based in Wellington and we always give him particular attention on that account. After the first bad samples, it was naturally assumed that the sterilising of the machinery had not been carried out properly. However, subsequent samples traced the fault to the complete cold mixed material, which should have been sterile and was not. The trouble was traced to its source by the Public Health Inspector of the neighbouring district at the factory where the mix is made.

Laboratory Reports on Ice Cream Samples

Grade	<i>Vehicles</i>				<i>Premises</i>			
	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV
Soft ice cream ..	—	4	4	9	—	—	—	—
Other ice cream ..	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—

SAMPLING—WATER

Town Mains

Samples of water were taken regularly throughout the year from the public supply and sent for bacteriological examination. Twenty-three samples were taken, all were reported to be satisfactory.

Water from a well in Limekiln Woods was sampled chemically and bacteriologically. The water is used by the occupier of a caravan in the vicinity. He has now been advised that if it is used for drinking and cooking purposes, it should first be boiled.

Other samples sent for analysis by Mr. Ward, the Chemist to the Joint Committee, were from Wrekin Hospital after the installation of water softening plant and from the new Chest Ward. They were reported satisfactory.

Lead Content

Five samples of water were sent for chemical analysis for lead. In each case lead was below the recommended maximum permitted level for drinking water.

SWIMMING BATHS

Samples were taken on seventeen occasions. Thirty individual samples were taken. All except two were satisfactory. The two unsatisfactory results were isolated occurrences with plate counts slightly exceeding the recommended minimum, but there were no coliform organisms.

BOWRING PADDLING POOL

Chemical tests for P.H. and chlorine were made on three occasions. Samples were taken on one occasion, giving satisfactory results.

SAMPLING—MILK AND OTHER FOODS

The County Public Health Inspector has given the following report about samples taken in the Urban District:

Milk

Samples sent for bacteriological examination

	Samples obtained	Phosphatase Test		Methylene Blue Test			Turbidity Test
		Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed	Void	
Pasteurised	56	56	—	50	1	5	—
Channel Islands Pasteurised ..	10	10	—	7	2	1	—
Untreated Channel Islands ..	7	—	—	6	1	—	—
Sterilised	4	—	—	—	—	—	4
	77						

Warning letters were sent in respect of the Methylene Blue failures above.

Samples sent for Chemical Examination by Public Analyst

Pasteurised	2
Channel Islands Pasteurised	1
Untreated Farm Bottled	1
Untreated Channel Islands Farm Bottled	1
Sterilised	1
Bulk untreated ex-Farm	53
	59

All the above were satisfactory.

Other Food and Drugs

Samples submitted to the Public Analyst

Pork Sausage	3	Rose Hip Syrup	1
Brandy	1	Full Fat Soft Cheese	1
Extract of Malt B.P.C.	1	Soup	1
Tomato Paste	1	Cheese	1
Ice Cream	1	Travel Sickness Tablets	1
Mild Beer	1	Condensed Milk	1
Cheese Spread	1	Fish Cakes	1
Herrings in Tomato Sauce	1	Mayonnaise	1
Sweet Pickles	1	Self Raising Flour	1
Lemon Juice	1	Malt Extract and Cod Liver Oil	1
Table Salt	1		
Vitamin and Mineral Food Supplement	1		25
Sausage Rolls	1		

The above samples were reported satisfactory except the cheese, which was found to contain iron particles; the sausage rolls, which were found to contain areas of green stained meat, and two samples of pork sausage, which were found to contain undeclared sulphur dioxide and excess fat. Warning letters were sent in each case.

In addition to the above, the following foods were investigated without a report from the Public Analyst:

- Current loaf containing a piece of twin copper wire.
- Slices of corned beef were found to contain small pieces of skin and hair.
- A tin of tomatoes was found to contain a wasp.
- A tin of garden peas was found to contain an insect pupa.
- A steak and kidney pie was found to contain a blowfly.
- A mixed grill was found to be affected by mould.
- A doughnut was found to be discoloured.
- An ice cream cup was found to contain specks of iron dust.
- A packet of bread rolls were found to be affected by mould. Legal proceedings were instituted against the bakers, who were fined £20 and £15 costs.
- Sausage rolls were found to be affected by mould. Legal proceedings were instituted against the butcher, who was fined £20 and £10 costs.

MEAT INSPECTION AND PUBLIC SLAUGHTERHOUSE

The public slaughterhouse was closed on the 11th February, 1971. Up to that time 100 per cent meat inspection had been carried out, details of which are given in the following table:

	<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
<i>Number of animals killed and inspected</i>	98	—	—	1,381	349
<i>All diseases except T.B. and Cisticerci:</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	2
Part or organ condemned	24	—	—	84	66
Percentage affected	24.5	—	—	6.1	19.4
<i>T.B. only:</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Part or organ condemned	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Cisticerci:</i>					
Carcases of which some part or organ condemned ..	1	—	—	—	—
<i>Carcases submitted for refrigeration</i>	1	—	—	—	—
<i>Genealised and totally condemned</i>	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Cattle Units</i>	549				

POULTRY SLAUGHTERING

There are two small poultry slaughtering premises in the town. Each is connected with a business owned by a Muslim. Poultry are killed and dressed as they are ordered by customers. Any birds which are either dressed or being slaughtered when visits are made to the premises by a Public Health Inspector are inspected as to their fitness for food. The estimated number of birds killed during the year: 4,000, mostly hens.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Inspections of factories during the year were as follows:

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i>
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	
(i) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6	3	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 enforced by the Local Authority	59	25	3	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	6	3	—	—
Total	71	31	3	—

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	3	3	0	0	0
Overcrowding (S.2)	0	0	0	0	0
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ..	0	0	0	0	0
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	0	0	0	0	0

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

<i>Class of Premises</i>	<i>Number of Premises newly registered during the year</i>	<i>Total number of registered premises at end of year</i>	<i>Number of registered premises receiving one or more general inspections</i>	<i>Number of persons employed</i>
Offices	5	77	6	685
Retail shops	11	152	46	750
Wholesale shops, warehouses	2	9	2	66
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	—	27	27	148
Fuel storage depots	—	2	—	4
Total	18	267	81	1,653

Nationally, most accidents in offices and shops are due to falls. In this connection it is probably not a coincidence that the most common fault to be found in these premises is broken or loose floor covering. Serious accidents can be caused by meat slicing machines and by lifts or hoists and moving belts. Slicing machines must be guarded and cleaning must not be carried out with the machine switched on. No person under age eighteen is allowed to clean such a machine. No faults were found with slicing machines in this district this year, but alterations or repairs were required to three moving belts and three lifts or hoists in commercial premises. Four accidents were reported in Wellington during 1971.

RODENT CONTROL

Under the combined scheme a test bait was carried out in the town's sewers in February. Sixty-three manholes were baited; eight takes were recorded. The takes were followed up by poison bait of Fluoroacetamide in a total of twenty-one manholes. This has since been repeated twice.

Mice caused the greatest difficulty in buildings, they do not respond to poison bait as readily as do rats. Buildings can become badly infested, particularly when the occupier tries to poison the mice, but fails to use the bait in the prescribed manner. The most common fault is failure to put down enough bait.

In the Urban District the Council has contracts with 38 commercial premises for the control of rats and mice. A charge is made when other premises are treated on request. Domestic premises are treated free of charge, but in the case of mice the occupiers are usually expected to carry out the treatment themselves with bait, bait trays and an instruction sheet, which are provided free.

No. 2 SMOKE CONTROL ORDER, 1971

In October the Council decided to make a second Smoke Control Order, relating to 371 houses in an area adjoining the first Smoke Control Area. A further decision of the Council was to proceed to make Smoke Control Orders to cover all the Urban District over a period of five years.

The tenants of the thirty Council houses within the new area are to be asked what type of heating they require. It is proposed to offer to install more elaborate forms of heating to those tenants for which they will be able to pay by installments with the rent.

NOISE NUISANCES

There have been twenty-five complaints from people alleging nuisances caused by noise. There were eleven actual sources of noise which the complaints referred to. Two of these were late-night music from Assembly Rooms. With the co-operation of owners of the premises, a great reduction in the sound level can be obtained so that it can be tolerable to nearby residents. One complaint has been dealt with in this way. We are still working on the other one. One of the objections made by residents close to a dance hall is that when the music finally stops, there follows, for at least half-an-hour, disturbance by noise from the car park as the party breaks up.

HAIRDRESSERS AND BARBERS

The Council has By-laws relating to hairdressers and barbers. The requirements of the By-laws are not excessive. In general they require that premises should be clean and that implements should have been cleaned prior to use on each customer. It is the latter aspect about which I wrote in April a circular letter to all gents' hairdressers in the district. My reason for writing was because it did not seem that this requirement was being observed sufficiently.

CLEARANCE PROGRAMME

In March the Council informed the Ministry of the Environment that there were a further fifty-one houses which should be added to the Slum Clearance Programme, and that action had been commenced on eleven of them. During the year the following were approved by the Council:

Closing Orders	..	..	..	..	..	2
Houses in Clearance Areas	..	..	..	..	..	14
Undertakings in lieu of Demolition Orders	..					4

Twenty-three houses were demolished and seven families re-housed (twenty-one people).

In the Clearance Programme there remained forty-one houses which have not yet been dealt with by the Council.

GENERAL IMPROVEMENT AREA

When the survey of the proposed General Improvement Area in Victoria Avenue and King Street was completed, Ministry officials came to a meeting of the Housing and Public Health Committee to discuss the matter and to answer questions. Members also saw the new film about improvement areas and were shown slides about general improvement areas which had been carried out in other districts. I reported to the Committee with an outline plan of a suggested treatment of the area. The scheme was accepted in principle and now local architects have been asked to prepare proposals for environmental improvement.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Mr. D. Draper, Engineer and Surveyor, has given the following report:

Despite continuing delays in the preparation of plans and selection of a site for a new joint incinerator to serve the four Telford Authorities, efforts are being made to continue controlled tipping at Ketley Brook.

Last year agreement was reached with the British Railways Board for an extension of tipping operations on to railway land to enable the tip surface to marry-in with the adjoining railway embankment at the northern end of the tip site. Tipping on the Board's land commenced in December, 1971, and it is anticipated that this extension will prolong the life of the tip by up to two years, by which time it is hoped that the new incinerator will be in operation. To aggravate our tipping difficulties, the construction of the roundabout on the link between A5 and M54 motorway, together with a section of the north-west primary route, which are due to commence during 1972, will seriously affect access to the tip face. This scheme will also necessitate the removal of the salvage baling shed near the tip entrance and its replacement in an alternative position on the tip site for a temporary period.

The Council continue to derive a useful income from the baling of waste paper salvage. Despite a cut-down in the quantity of salvage which the Board Mill can accept, the annual tonnage at present baled is in the region of 550 tons. This now produces an income of about £6,350.

The refuse collection service has continued to operate smoothly, and a regular weekly collection has been maintained throughout the year, including satisfaction to the ratepayers, as the complaints received are negligible. In comparison with the period prior to Work Study in 1958, there is a weekly saving of 20 man/hrs., and coupled with an increase in bins emptied from 4,705 to 6,882, this represents an increase in productivity (output per man/hr.) of $53\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Mr. D. Draper, Engineer and Surveyor to the Wellington Urban District Council, reports as follows:

1. *Account of any difficulties occurring during year:* No special difficulties encountered.
2. *Adequacy of disposal systems (with results of effluent examination):* There is available capacity at the Admaston S.D. Works to treat the drainage from all new development within the urban area during the next two/three years, after which the new joint works at Rushmoor should be in commission.
3. *Extensions of public sewers carried during year:* Nil.
4. *Areas where new extensions to sewers are needed:* Dependent upon the phasing of further development, based on the Telford Basic Plan proposals, sewers will be needed to drain:
 - (i) Land to the north and east of Orleton Park.
 - (ii) Dothill Estate—northern portion.
 - (iii) Land at Apley Castle Estate.
5. *Areas where new disposal schemes are necessary:* Telford Development Corporation are at present designing the first phase of a new joint S.D. Works at Rushmoor, to be financed by the Wellington Rural and Wellington Urban District Councils.

Shifnal Rural District Council

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman: MR. B. T. WILKES

MR. F. T. BILLINGSLEY	MR. J. L. OWEN
MR. J. A. BOWLING	MR. A. PARRY
MR. B. F. J. CHERRINGTON	MR. A. L. SHILTON
MR. F. A. JEFFREY	MR. W. R. TURNOCK
MR. T. MORRIS	MR. K. WORTHINGTON

Mr. N. H. Peel, Chief Public Health Inspector, reports:

WATER SUPPLY

The East Shropshire Water Board and the Wolverhampton Corporation Water Undertaking provide supplies in the district, but there are still a number of properties without a public mains supply.

Generally, the quality and quantity of the water has been wholesome and sufficient throughout the year.

The results of samples are given below; where a sample was found to be unsatisfactory, immediate steps were taken to warn the occupiers of any risks, and follow-up action was taken. Every attempt is made to provide mains water to properties on suspect private supplies when at all possible.

Number of Bacteriological Samples from

1. Public Mains supplies:	Satisfactory	88
	Unsatisfactory	6
2. Private Mains supplies	Satisfactory	30
	Unsatisfactory	5
3. Wells, streams, pumps, etc.	Satisfactory	0
	Unsatisfactory	0

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The Council's scheme for replacing dustbins with the sack system was continued during the year. Due to continued problems caused by animals damaging sacks and the increase in the cost of wall units and paper sacks, it was decided to change over to the use of plastic bins with plastic bin liners. The whole of Shifnal and Albrighton was completed during the year, together with the married quarters at R.A.F., Cosford.

During the coming year it is hoped to change the remainder of the district to the new system. There are over 2,500 premises using the sack system, which will be increased to over 4,600.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE DISPOSAL

The extensions to Shifnal Sewage Disposal works were completed during the year and were officially opened by The Earl of Gainsborough in October.

The scheme for providing main sewerage for the village of Kemberton was completed towards the end of the year. Seventy properties have been connected to the system, and the sewage is pumped to the treatment works at Shifnal.

The scheme for providing main sewerage for the village of Sheriffhales was started and was very near to completion by the end of the year. Here again the sewage will be pumped to Shifnal and thence to the works for treatment.

It is hoped that the scheme for providing main drainage to Tong will commence early in 1972. Here again pumping will be used and sewage will be treated at the Albrighton Works.

Schemes for Boningale and Ryton will have to be prepared and considered in the near future.

FOOD AND DRUGS

Milk and Other Foods

I have received the following report relating to samples taken within the district by the County Public Health Inspector:

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

MILK							
Pasteurised	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Channel Islands Pasteurised	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Untreated Farm Bottled	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Untreated Channel Islands Farm Bottled	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Sterilised	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Bulk Untreated ex-Farm	..	..	..	..	..	..	54
							70

OTHER FOODS AND DRUGS									
Children's Aspirin	..	..	1	Lemon Curd	..	..	..	1	
Sliced White Bread	..	..	1	Rum	..	..	..	1	
Rum Butter	..	..	1	Tonic Tablets	..	..	..	1	
Steak and Kidney Pies	..	..	1	Mineral Diet Supplement	..	..	..	1	
Margarine with Butter	..	..	1	Sausage Rolls	..	..	..	1	
Mild Beer	..	..	2	Beef Pasties	..	..	..	1	
Liquid Paraffin	..	..	1	Paracetamol Tablets B.P.	..	..	..	1	
Margarine	..	..	1	Gin	..	..	..	1	
Whisky	..	..	2	Health Drink	..	..	..	1	
Olive Oil B.P.	..	..	1	Dressed Crab	..	..	..	1	
Boric Acid Crystals B.P.	..	..	1					24	
Brewer's Yeast B.P.C.	..	..	1						

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (SPECIFIED AREA) ORDER, 1957

	Samples obtained	Phosphatase Test	Methylene Blue Test			Turbidity Test
		Passed	Passed	Failed	Void	Passed
Pasteurised	37	37	35	—	2	—
Channel Islands Pasteurised	17	17	15	—	2	—
Untreated Channel Islands Farm Bottled ..	3	—	1	2	—	—
Sterilised	1	—	—	—	—	1

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food were informed in respect of the Methylene Blue failures above.

Other Complaints re Food

A number of complaints were received from members of the public during the year concerning doubtful or unsound food.

The main complaints concerned bacon contaminated by maggots, bread containing charred and unleavened dough, a loaf of bread alleged to contain a pin and a bottle of milk contaminated with paraffin.

In most of the above cases the complaints were investigated by the department in co-operation with the County Public Health Department.

FOOD PREMISES

1. Manufacturers Registered:								1971 Visits	Contraventions	
(a) Bakers	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil	—	Found	Abated
(b) Sausage and pie makers	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	2	—	—
(c) Ice cream makers	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil	—	—	—
(d) Others	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	—	—	—

2. *Distributors:*

(a) Butchers	10	6	54	19
(b) Bakers (Confectionery)	4	17	6	9
(c) Grocers	22	22	97	33
(d) Fishmongers	3	—	—	—
(e) Greengrocers	5	4	32	3
(f) Wholesale Depots	—	—	—	—
(g) Mobile Shops	5	—	—	—
(h) Ice cream sellers	39	18	9	—
(i) Dairies	2	—	—	—

3. *Caterers:*

(a) Cafes, restaurants and clubs	13	6	—	4
(b) Hotels and guest houses	4	12	21	—
(c) Public houses	18	—	—	—
(d) Canteens—industrial	4	2	58	—
(e) Canteens—schools	11	—	—	—
(f) Fish fryers	4	2	12	6

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

The small private slaughterhouse in the district was maintained at a high standard throughout the year. Five full and detailed inspections were made during the year.

Meat Inspected

The following table gives details of the number of animals inspected during the year, and it has been possible to obtain a 100 per cent inspection at the slaughterhouse. During the year 171 visits were made to the slaughterhouse in order to carry out meat inspection.

<i>Number Inspected</i>					
<i>Cattle</i> 390	<i>Cows</i> —	<i>Calves</i> —	<i>Sheep</i> 2,294	<i>Pigs</i> 469	<i>Sows</i> 52

Meat Condemned

<i>Condemned Carcases, Parts or Organs</i>							
<i>Diseases other than T.B. or Cysticercosis</i>					<i>Tuberculosis</i>		<i>Cysticercosis</i>
<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep/Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Sows</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Sows</i>	<i>Cattle</i>
113	—	9	39	7	8	—	—

POULTRY INSPECTION

There is no systematic inspection of poultry within the district, as there are no poultry slaughterhouses

OTHER FOOD CONDEMNED

107 various confectionery items
46 meat pies
50 lbs. wet fish
10 cartons Yoghurts
107 cartons soft drinks
44 lbs. meat
1 tin corned mutton

HOUSING

During the year 98 new dwellings were built, of which 56 were for the Council.

The number of applications for improvement grants increased slightly during the year, and 22 were approved.

Two Clearance Areas were declared during the year consisting of twenty houses. Fourteen other unfit houses were inspected for action under the Housing Acts.

The Council's new Grouped Flatlets Scheme at Willowdale, Shifnal, was completed and consists of 23 flatlets and a bungalow for the resident warden. The total number of flatlets and bungalows provided in the district especially for the elderly and disabled is now 227.

NOISE ABATEMENT

No complaints were received during the year.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

(a) Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act

At the end of the year the total number of registered premises were as follows:

Registrations and General Inspections

<i>Class of Premises</i>	<i>Number of premises registered during the year</i>	<i>Total number of registered premises at end of year</i>	<i>Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year</i>
Offices	2	20	3
Retail shops	16	64	33
Wholesale shops, warehouses ..	—	—	—
Catering establishments, etc. ..	—	21	4
Fuel Storage Depots	—	—	—
Total	18	105	40

Analysis of Persons Employed

<i>Class of Workshop</i>	<i>Number of persons employed</i>
Offices	91
Retail shops	214
Wholesale departments ..	—
Catering establishments ..	80
Canteens	—
Fuel storage depots	—
Total	285
Total Males ..	134
Total Females ..	251

Total number of visits made during the year (including General Inspections) was 103

Contraventions .. Found 124 Abated 55

Notices Served 30 Abated 14

Agricultural Welfare Safety Regulations

No action has been taken under the above Regulations so far.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		<i>Prosecuted</i>
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities	—	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 enforced by Local Authority	27	2	2	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	27	2	2	—

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences insufficient (S.7)	1	—	—	—	—

PEST CONTROL

The pest control service is carried out by the North East Salop Pest Control Joint Committee, and the services of a Rodent Operative are always available at short notice. The contract system for agricultural and business premises continues to work satisfactorily.

GENERAL ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

(a) Nuisances

During the year 37 complaints were received concerning nuisances, of which 2 were unfounded and 10 were referred to other departments. Nine informal notices were served under the Public Health Act and 2 Statutory Notices were served.

(b) Caravan Sites

The two private caravan sites received periodic inspections during the year; the condition at the smaller of the two sites was found to be unsatisfactory, but informal action achieved a great improvement. There was very little problem during the year from itinerant caravan dwellers. Thirty-four visits were made to caravan sites.

(c) Pet Shops

There is only one registered pet shop in the district, which is satisfactory.

(d) Public Toilets

The public toilets in Albrighton were relatively free from vandalism during the year. Negotiations are still proceeding with regard to a site for the new public conveniences in Shifnal.

(e) Street Cleansing

This service again operated very successfully throughout the year. The problem of litter being deposited throughout the district still gives cause for serious concern, the nuisance caused by the deposit of litter on the lay-byes increased. Although the department take frequent and prompt action to try and prevent these areas from becoming recognised tipping places, it would appear that the problem from indiscriminate tipping is increasing, and I feel that it may well be necessary to take action under the Litter Act to curb this nuisance.

The real answer to this problem must be one of education, and perhaps the public health profession should take a more positive lead in this vital matter of environmental improvement.

(f) Swimming Baths

The two swimming baths in Albrighton and Shifnal are also used by other organisations. Regular samples are taken during the swimming season to ensure that they maintain a high standard of bacteriological purity.

Wellington (Salop) Rural District Council

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman: MR. A. H. JONES

Vice-Chairman: MR. W. C. DAVIS

MR. W. L. ARCHER	MRS. G. P. E. IBBOTSON
MR. T. BROTHWOOD	MR. J. J. JONES
MR. P. BROWN	MR. J. E. KAY
MR. L. BULLOCK	MR. J. E. MANSELL
MRS. M. A. CHAPPELL	MR. R. G. MARSH
MRS. G. CORDINGLEY	MR. T. W. MILNER
MR. J. D. CRADDOCK	MR. D. W. NEILSON, C.B.E.
MR. J. V. DAKIN	MR. W. H. RIDGWAY
MR. J. P. FORD	MR. T. D. ROBERTS
MR. E. L. GOODYEAR	MR. C. TAMS
MR. S. W. GOUGH	MR. A. B. TIMMINS
MR. L. J. HARPER	MR. S. F. TYLER
MR. A. A. HEDGECOX	MR. G. E. WHYLE
MR. V. M. E. HOLT, C.C.	MR. W. T. WINNALL
MR. R. HUTCHINSON, J.P.	MR. E. C. WOOLLEY
<i>Co-opted Member:</i> MR. I. JONES, O.B.E.	

Mr. H. Wall, Chief Public Health Inspector, reports:

WATER SUPPLY

Public Supply

The East Shropshire and the West Shropshire Water Boards are responsible for public mains supply in the district. Generally the quality and quantity of the water has been wholesome and sufficient, although of twelve bacteriological samples taken, two were found to be unsatisfactory due to breakdown of the chlorinating mechanism.

Private Mains

The private main supply serving properties in Woodcote and Lynn was intermittently polluted. The reservoir for the supply was drained and cleansed, and the standard is now satisfactory.

Bores, Wells, etc.

Thirty-two samples have been taken, only eight of which proved unsatisfactory.

Swimming Baths

A new swimming bath at Ketley was in continuous use during the year. Regular samples were taken from this bath and the baths at Donnington and Hadley. One sample was reported as unsatisfactory, and the source of pollution quickly traced.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Donnington relief sewers were completed during the year, as was the major part of the extensions to Edgmond Sewage Works.

A storm water relief sewer was constructed at Donnington to alleviate flooding in the "Black Bank" area. Work commenced on the New Works sewerage scheme and was expected to reach completion very shortly.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

A regular weekly collection has been maintained throughout the year.

The paper sack scheme continues to operate efficiently and a further 1,700 households changed to this system during 1971. A total of 6,000 properties now operate the paper sack system.

The refuse tip at Donnington is reaching its maximum capacity and a further area of land for tipping has been negotiated with the National Coal Board for a period of four years. During this time it is hoped the incinerator, due to be erected at Stafford Park Industrial Site, will be operative.

HOUSING

The advent of the Housing Act, 1969, has seen a reduction in the demolition of individual properties and an increase in improved dwellings. Properties which, before the Act, were likely to have been demolished, have been improved.

Forty-one applications for Improvement Grants were approved during the year and a further nine Standard Grants.

Fourteen individual houses were dealt with formally during the year and one undertaking accepted not to re-occupy. Six applications were received for qualification certificates. After the necessary inspections, three were granted, one provisional certificate given for proposed improvement, and two refused.

FOOD HYGIENE

In general, hygiene standards of the food premises visited were found to be satisfactory. Only one visit resulted in prosecution under the Food Hygiene Regulations: a food shop owner was fined £60 for eight offences.

Unfit Food

Three complaints were received concerning foreign bodies in milk. The complaints related to different dairies and in all three cases warning letters were sent to the vendors.

Foreign bodies were also reported in a loaf of bread and a can of meat, and on being satisfied that the firms involved were taking the best practical means to avoid complaints of this nature, no further action was taken.

An identical procedure was adopted in respect of a mouldy meat pie.

During 1971 activity was concentrated on the hygiene standards of licensed premises. This was rewarded in the latter part of the year by various Brewery Companies undertaking major improvements and including catering facilities and internal toilet accommodation in their schedule of works.

Meat Inspection

<i>Carcases inspected and condemned</i>	<i>Cattle (excluding Cows)</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed	495	—	1	687	1,218
Number not inspected	—	—	—	—	—
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	51	—	—	17	141
<i>Tuberculosis only:</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	—	—	—	—	17
<i>Cysticerci:</i>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	2	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to refrigeration	2	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT

- (a) Number of Premises .. 90
- (b) Inspections .. 40
- (c) Number of defects .. 45
- (d) The attention of employers has been drawn to any defects and this has been sufficient to secure the necessary improvements.

CARAVANS AND CAMPING SITES

The beginning of the year saw the same problems arising from itinerants parking caravans on vacant sites. There is still no site available in East Shropshire for these travellers, and the removal of these people from sites has involved Council employees in unpleasant duties and the Council in a lot of expense.

All vacant sites have since been secured by various means to prevent itinerants from gaining access to the land and since then no further problems have arisen.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Glynwed Foundries Ltd. have installed gas washing equipment to the largest of the factories' cupolas, and this has resulted in a considerable improvement to the neighbouring environment.

STREET CLEANSING

The urban areas of the district continue to be cleansed at regular intervals, a service greatly appreciated by the public.

Manual sweeping has been carried out in parts of Donnington and additional litter bins placed at strategic points. This has resulted in an improvement in the litter situation, although the position is still far from satisfactory.

HOUSING

	<i>Newport U.D.C.</i>	<i>Oakengates U.D.C.</i>	<i>Wellington U.D.C.</i>	<i>Shifnal R.D.C.</i>	<i>Wellington R.D.C.</i>
Estimated Population mid-year	7,020	16,760	17,290	16,350	30,020
Total number of houses in district	2,501	6,281	5,486	4,620	10,076
Total number of houses owned by Local Authority ..	675	1,727	2,075	1,143	4,179
HOUSING ACT, 1957					
Houses demolished in Clearance Areas	0	52	20	0	0
Houses demolished not in Clearance Areas	0	26	3	6	13
Unfit houses closed	0	0	6	7	0
Unfit houses in which defects were remedied	0	3	6	10	41
Unfit houses in temporary use: position at end of year ..	5	0	0	4	0
Purchase of houses by agreement	0	0	0	7	0
OVERCROWDING					
(a) Number of houses overcrowded at 31st December, 1971	Not known	0	2	2	0
(b) Number of overcrowded families rehoused during year	0	0	2	5	0
HOUSES ERECTED DURING YEAR					
By Local Authority: For slum clearance	0	20	0	56	27
For other purposes	7	22	0		
By private enterprise	156	159	46	42	104
POST-WAR HOUSES ERECTED FROM 1st APRIL, 1945, TO 31st DECEMBER, 1971, by					
Local Authority	511	1,537	1,446	866	2,719
Private enterprise	1,201	2,715	1,945	1,622	2,492
HOUSING PROGRAMME FOR 1972 for					
Slum Clearance	0	25	0	32	87
Other purposes	27	25	51		
Total number of Council houses sold during year ..	0	0	0	2	0
Total number of applicants on housing list at end of year	143	225	506	409	2,045
IMPROVEMENT GRANTS					
Discretionary Grants					
(a) Number of dwellings in applications approved during year	6	9	10	13	40
(b) Average cost per dwelling on work ranking for grant ..	£765	£1,112	£1,066	£3,077	£1,961
(c) Amount of grant payable by Local Authority stated as %	50%	50%	48%	50%	50%
(d) Average cost per dwelling including repairs, improvements, etc.	£3,035	£1,194	£1,386	£3,431	£1,961
STANDARD GRANTS					
(a) Number of dwellings in applications approved during year	10	27	14	9	10
(b) Average amount of grant per dwelling paid by Council	£140	£214	£80	£207	£214

WATER SUPPLIES

	<i>Newport U.D.C.</i>	<i>Oakengates U.D.C.</i>	<i>Wellington U.D.C.</i>	<i>Shifnal R.D.C.</i>	<i>Wellington R.D.C.</i>
Houses in District	2,501	6,281	5,486	4,620	10,076
Public Mains					
Piped	2,500	6,281	5,486	4,578	9,573
Stand-pipe supplies	0	0	0	0	0
Private Mains					
Piped	0	0	0	40	107
Stand-pipe supplies	0	0	0	0	0
Other Supplies					
Wells, streams, pumps, etc.	1	0	0	Not known	396
Number of Bacteriological Samples from					
Public Mains: Satisfactory	20	2	23	88	23
Unsatisfactory	2	0	0	6	2
Private Mains: Satisfactory	0	0	0	30	2
Unsatisfactory	0	0	0	5	5
Wells, streams, pumps, etc.: Satisfactory	0	0	0	0	12
Unsatisfactory	0	0	1	0	9
Number of Chemical Samples from					
Public Mains: Satisfactory	0	0	2	3	0
Unsatisfactory	0	0	0	0	0
Private Mains: Satisfactory	0	0	0	0	0
Unsatisfactory	0	0	0	0	0
Wells, streams, pumps, etc.: Satisfactory	0	0	1	0	0
Unsatisfactory	0	0	0	0	0
Number of Public Main Supplies					
Chlorinated	1	1	1	2	1
Not chlorinated	0	0	0	0	0
Number of Private Main Supplies					
Chlorinated	0	0	0	0	0
Not chlorinated	0	0	0	4	2
Did any sample of water indicate liability to plumbo-solvent action causing contamination by lead?	No	No	No	No	No

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

	<i>Newport U.D.C.</i>	<i>Oakengates U.D.C.</i>	<i>Wellington U.D.C.</i>	<i>Shifnal R.D.C.</i>	<i>Wellington R.D.C.</i>
Houses in District	2,501	6,281	5,486	4,620	10,076
Houses connected to disposal works owned by Local Authority	2,487	6,237	5,479	3,693	8,409
Houses connected to satisfactory private disposal or treatment plants	12	8	7	Not known	Not known
Houses without satisfactory means of sewerage	2	26	0	Not known	Not known
Houses using chemical, pail, earth or privy closets:					
(a) With proper means of disposal	4	26	0	Not known	Not known
(b) Without proper means of disposal	0	0	0	Not known	Not known
Collections of night soil by Local Authority:					
Houses	0	26	0	0	116
Frequency	—	Weekly	—	—	Weekly
Sewage disposal works owned by Council	1	1	2	8	30

REFUSE COLLECTION, 1971

	<i>Parishes or Wards where Refuse is</i>		<i>Frequency of Collection</i>	<i>Method of Collection</i>	<i>Method of Disposal</i>	<i>Number of Tips in use at end of year</i>
	<i>Collected</i>	<i>Not Collected</i>				
Newport U.D.C. ..	All	Nil	Weekly	Council	Controlled	1
Oakengates U.D.C. ..	All	Nil	Weekly	Council	Controlled	1
Wellington U.D.C. ..	All	Nil	Weekly	Council	Controlled	1
Shifnal R.D.C.	All	Nil	7-10 days	Council	Controlled	1
Wellington R.D.C. ..	All	Nil	Weekly	Council	Semi-Controlled	1

Adnitt & Naunton Ltd.
Shrewsbury
